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College and School News

Mrs. Thomas W. Bonds is the newest addition to the library staff at **Storer College.**

Bishop Alexander P. Shaw of the Baltimore area of the Methodist Church has been elected to the board of trustees of **Bennett College.** He has degrees from Rust College, Gammon Theological Seminary, Atlanta University and Philander Smith College.

Harold E. Finley (zoology) **Morehouse College** is studying for his Ph.D. degree on an honorary scholarship made available by the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin. He was recently elected to Sigmi Xi, national honorary society, and Phi Sigma, national honorary biological society. His articles have appeared in many internationally recognized zoological journals and in biological textbooks.

Prof. Ira De A. Reid of **Atlanta University** is co-author with Arthur Raper of a new book "Sharecroppers All" (Univ. of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, N. C.). Dr. Reid has been on the Atlanta University faculty since 1934, and is author of several sociological works.

Dr. Nathaniel P. Tillman, acting chairman of the English department, has received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Wisconsin in the field of English philology. He is a native of Birmingham, Ala., and a Morehouse alumnus.

A recently completed survey of the distribution, income and practice of Negro physicians in the United States has been released by President Edward L. Turner of **Meharry Medical College,** which has 2,771 practicing alumni in 37 States. The survey shows that 68 per cent of Meharry graduates are located in towns of 20,000 or less in the South, excluding Missouri. Elsewhere only about five per cent are located in the smaller towns. Of Meharry's practicing alumni, 1,772 are located in the South, the remainder being in the North, East and West.

The Southern city Negro physician has a gross income of between $4,000 and $6,000 yearly, while his brother in smaller towns averages from $2,500 to $4,000, gross.

In the Northern big cities about 95 per cent of the Negro physicians in that area are concentrated. Their income ranges from $4,500 to $7,500, gross.

The average family income of patients treated in the South is around $600, while in the North, East and West it is $850.

Howard University's Class Fund Committee, under Dr. W. Montague Cobb, has turned over $500 to the University to be used for scholarship purposes during the school year 1940-41. An intensified campaign for scholarship funds will continue until March 3.

Eighty students have enrolled for a course in Engineering Drawing in the School of Architecture and Engineering. This is the first of a series of intensive short courses being offered at Howard under the Engineering Defense Training Program sponsored by the U. S. Office of Education. Howard is one of the 91 engineering schools which

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This year marks the fifteenth anniversary of the administration of President Mordecai Wyatt Johnson. He has served a longer period than any of his predecessors.

Harold T. Pinkett (A.B. Morgan College; A.M. Univ. of Penna.), professor of history at **Livingstone College,** contributed an outstanding article on Santo Domingo to the January 1941 Journal of Negro History.

Prof. Clarence W. Wright, biology instructor at Livingstone, was elected a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at the 107th annual meeting at Philadelphia recently. He is the 13th Negro to be so honored. He has degrees from Wilferforce and Ohio State Universities. He is also a member of the American Biology Teachers Association.

More than 200 guests representing churches, businesses, colleges, students and other groups throughout the state were entertained recently at a banquet celebrating the 75th anniversary of **Lincoln University.**

Governor Homer A. Holt has officially proclaimed the period from March 17 until May 3, as time for the observance of the Fiftieth Anniversary of **West Virginia State College.**

The College completed its fifth Civil Aeronautics Administration program with the granting of private pilot certificates at the end of January to ten students upon completion of their flight and ground school tests. The sixth unit of ten student pilots began their ground and flight training February.

According to President John W. Davis, plans are being made to discard the traditional laboratory high school in order to build a modern technical and vocational high school with adequate shops and equipment. He says, "This will be the only job preparing laboratory school in West Virginia for Negro youth."

Dr. Malcolm S. MacLean, president of **Hampton Intitute,** has presented a check of $365.21 to the Virginia State Interracial Commission. This gift was made possible by individual contributions from the student body, faculty,

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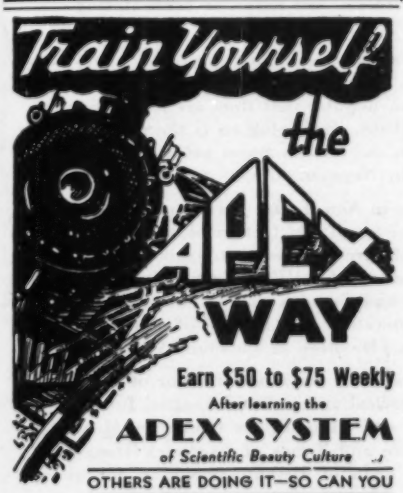

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Dean R. O'Hara Lanier has been appointed on an advisory committee on vocational training programs for Negroes by the National Survey Committee on Employment Opportunities for Negroes of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity.

Philip F. Lee of Ware Neck, Va., and Roscoe Draper of Haverford, Pa., two Hampton C.A.A. students now taking refresher and teacher-training air course at Tuskegee, have applied for the valuable Air Youth of America scholarships, recently announced by that organization, headed by Winthrop Rockefeller. These scholarships valued at $4,000 will be awarded to the three young men who are judged to show outstanding promise of achievement in this field.

The 15th Hampton Builders' Conference was held on February 10, 11 and 12. The first conference was held in 1923.

Donald Fisher Fenn, associate professor and director of the Division of Agriculture, has resigned, effective at the end of the academic year. He came to Hampton in 1920. No successor has been chosen.

Treasure

Little brown boy with tear-drenched eyes
The world is yours
Why do you cry?
The healing sun, the heartening rain,
The windswept air, the dashing waves . . .
You can have all this, and more.

Sturdy young man with cynical eyes
The world is yours,
Why do you sneer?
Books of knowledge, a straight young body,
Determination, perseverance,
A clean young mind, a clear, far vision—
You can have all this, and more.

Beaten old man, with vision dim,
The world is yours,
Why do you sigh?
A wealth of memories, wisdom and rest,
Faith in God, an understanding of man.
When all is finished, and all made clear—
You can have all this . . . and more.

—Odella Phelps Wood

Winter Night

Rolling mountains move through the dark sky;
Trees groan and bend in the night—
And through my window the moon on high
Makes beauty a dreadful sight
Yet, deep in my bed I lie
All snug and comfortably warm.
I listen to the wind cry
And know it can do me no harm.

—Hilda Himbry

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Published by THE CRISIS PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC.

DR. LOUIS T. WRIGHT, *President* WALTER WHITE, *Secretary*
MRS. LILLIAN A. ALEXANDER, *Treasurer*

Volume 48, No. 3 *Whole No. 363*

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THE CRISIS *was founded in* 1910. *It is published monthly at 69 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y., by Crisis Publishing Company, Inc., and is the official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The subscription price is* $1.50 *a year or* 15*c a copy. Foreign subscriptions* $1.75. *The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscriber may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and two weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage, and while* THE CRISIS *uses every care it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November 2, 1910, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879, and additional second class entry at Albany, N. Y.*

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NEXT MONTH

THE CRISIS for April will be a souvenir issue of Negro business, marking the 40th anniversary of the National Negro Business League.

There will be stories and pictures of Negro businesses, and articles on various fields of business by authorities.

Major R. R. Wright, Sr., dean of Negro bankers, will write an article on Negro banking.

The April issue will contain also the winning poem in the recent lyric poem contest conducted by THE CRISIS for the prize of $10 offered by Dr. Charles Edward Russell, of Washington, D. C.

•

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

George Padmore has written a number of articles for THE CRISIS during the past five years. He lives in London and despite the bombings by Nazi planes, he is still at his same address and apparently the only "casualty" he has suffered, according to his last letter, is some damage to his typewriter.

Arthur B. Spingarn has been doing these annual reviews of books by Negro authors for a number of years and they have become so popular that they are now a regular feature of THE CRISIS. Mr. Spingarn is the president of the NAACP and has one of the finest private libraries in America of books by Negroes.

Earl Conrad lives in New York. This article on Harriet Tubman is one chapter of his forthcoming book on the heroine of the anti-slavery movement. James W. Ivy is the book review editor of THE CRISIS. He reads and speaks Portuguese and Spanish and is something of an authority on the literature and history of Latin-America and South America. He lives in Phoebus, Va.

Richard B. Moore is the executive director of the Frederick Douglass Historical and Cultural League, founder of the Pathway Press, and editor of the Centenary Memorial edition of "The Life and Times of Frederick Douglass." James A. Bond is dean of Bethune-Cookman college at Daytona Beach, Florida.

•

COVER

Katherine Dunham and her troupe have been one of the features of the Broadway play, "Cabin in the Sky," which ends a long run in New York, March 8, and opens in Boston, March 10. Miss Dunham first attracted attention on Broadway last spring with a series of Sunday night recitals. Dance critics have hailed her as the "Marian Anderson of the dance" and her photographs have been featured in the leading magazines.

Editorials

Editor, ROY WILKINS
Advisory Board: Lewis Gannett, Arthur B. Spingarn, Sterling A. Brown, William Allan Neilson, Walter White, Charles Edward Russell, Carl Murphy, John Hammond

Nazi Plan for Negroes Copies Southern U.S.A.

WE are indebted to *The Nation,* dated March 1, 1941, for an article entitled, "The Nazi Plan for Negroes," by one Hans Habe. In it Mr. Habe outlines in some detail and with convincing thoroughness, the Hitler plan for handling black people.

But the paragraphs which caught our eye and which struck home with devastating accuracy were those in which Mr. Habe set forth the six principles which he declares the Germans have set up for dark peoples. The similarity between these and the usual treatment of Negroes in many parts of the United States of America, particularly the southern states, is so striking that we here place them both together for comparison by our readers:

Nazi	1. The colored people are an inferior race whose place must be fixed by the white "master race."
U.S.A.	1. The colored people are an inferior race and must be kept in their place.
Nazi	2. The free choice of trades and professions by the Negroes leads to social assimilation, which in turn produces racial assimilation. The occupations of the black colonial peoples and their function in the labor processes of the "new order" will therefore be entirely determined by the Germans.
U.S.A.	2. No southern state provides training in the professions for Negroes. Vocational training is sketchy and not up-to-date as proved by the lack of up-to-the-minute training by Negro boys seeking skilled work in the defense program. Even where trained, Negroes are shunted to labor and domestic jobs, barred from white collar and skilled work.
Nazi	3. Intermarriage between whites and blacks or half-breeds and whites is forbidden. According to the Nuremburg racial laws, sexual intercourse between members of the two races is subject to sanctions, including the death penalty.
U.S.A.	3. Intermarriage between whites and blacks is forbidden by law in 27 states and the District of Columbia. There is no penalty for mere sexual intercourse; as a matter of fact, such intercourse is a recognized institution in some localities, where the man is white.
Nazi	4. Persons belonging to a race other than the white Aryan race will have no active or passive electoral rights in the German colonial empire.
U.S.A.	4. Practically every southern state has a Democratic white primary election from which Negroes are excluded from voting.
Nazi	5. Negroes are forbidden access to railways, street cars, restaurants, motion pictures, and all public establishments. Special conveyances and public establishments will be created for them both in Germany and occupied territories.
U.S.A.	5. All southern states have "jim crow" laws separating the races on all public conveyances and in all public places. Baltimore, Md., will not even permit Negroes to spend their money in downtown department stores.
Nazi	6. Members of inferior races are not allowed to join the Nationalist Socialist Party or its subsidiary organizations. Nor can they serve in the army. They must, however, serve in the labor battalions.
U.S.A.	6. Except in isolated instances, the Negro may not join and function in the Democratic party, which is the ruling party in the South. Until this present emergency they were restricted to two regiments of infantry and two of cavalry in the army. In the last World War, they served preponderantly in labor battalions.

The CRISIS leaves to its readers the question of whether there is a great deal of difference between the code for Negroes under Hitler and the code for Negroes under the United States of America—the leading democratic nation in the world.

Bouquet for Connecticut

THE least said about the Spell-Strubing case which arose in Greenwich, Conn., in December, the better. Mrs. Strubing, a white woman, accused Joseph Spell, her black butler-chauffeur, of rape. Not one rape, but four, in the space of one night. Her story sounded improbable to the attorneys for the NAACP. In addition, there was the plight of the hundreds of domestic servants employed in New England to be considered. There was, also, the plight of the entire Negro race, which has been accused from time immemorial of being rapists.

And so, after an examination of Spell, our attorneys decided to defend him. They won. They secured an acquittal on the charge of rape from an all-white jury, one-half of which was composed of white women.

To the Virginia-born and reared white woman juror who admitted, honestly, that she might be prejudiced against Negroes, but who was convinced of Spell's innocence by the evidence presented, we send orchids.

To Connecticut, which proved in these hysterical and troublous times that it could render justice in its courts to a black man accused of a heinous crime by a white woman, we send a bouquet.

For National Defense Jobs, Write Your Senator

A RESOLUTION which will expose the notorious and inexcusable discrimination against Negroes in the national defense program has been introduced in the United States Senate. It is known as S.R. 75 and is being considered by the Senate committee on education and labor.

If this resolution is passed, the whole story of the barring of Negroes from the defense program will be laid bare. The first step is to get it approved by the committee. The task before readers of THE CRISIS is to write to members of the committee and to the senators from their states asking favorable action upon this resolution.

Chairman of the Senate committee on education and labor is Senator Elbert D. Thomas of Utah. He should be written letters and asked for a favorable report to the Senate. Other members of the committee are. Senators David I. Walsh, Mass.; James E. Murray, Montana; Claude Pepper, Florida; Allen J. Ellender, La.; Josh Lee, Okla.; and Lister Hill, Ala. The address is: Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C.

Equal Minimum, but Not Equal Pay

TWO interesting reactions to the campaign to equalize the salaries of Negro and white teachers have come to light in the past month. In South Carolina one of the leading daily newspapers, the *News and Courier* of Charleston, has declared for equal salaries. But there is a catch in the editorial pronouncement. Editor Ball wants equal salaries on the elementary level, but he would make high school education a luxury by assessing a fee for high school students.

At present South Carolina is spending $60.06 per capita on the education of *white* children against the national average of $99. It is spending *$7.84* per capita for Negro education.

The other reaction is from Alabama, where the state has equalized *minimum* salaries. White and colored teachers now start at the same level. Not a word is said about equal salaries all down the line. A Negro teacher with a master's degree and ten years of experience still gets less salary than a white teacher with the same degree and experience.

Hitler Makes British Drop Color Bar

By George Padmore

Here is the most revealing article yet to come out of Britain on the all-important question (to Negro Americans) of the effect of the war on England's notorious color line

THE devil was sick, the devil a monk would be. The devil was well, the devil a monk was he. This age-old gibe epitomizes the relations between John Bull and his colored subjects in the present war. As long as Britain was at peace the Colonial races were despised; they were the "lesser breed without the law." Then it was easier for the proverbial camel to pass through the eye of the needle than for a Negro to enter the Royal Air Force. Now that England is engaged in a life and death struggle to maintain not only her Empire, but her very national existence, the colored races are being wooed as never before to join up.

This *volte-face* is best manifested in the recent decision of the British Government and High Command to abolish the Color Bar in the Imperial Forces of the Crown, especially the Royal Air Force, until now the exclusive preserve of Anglo-Saxons.

Such fundamental changes do not reflect the personal whims of Whitehall statesmen, nor are they to be interpreted as a manifestation that democratic freedom is being extended to the non-self-governing sections of the Empire, such as India, Africa, the West Indies, etc. The new policy is quite simply opportunistic. It is dictated by the imperialist needs and influenced by the present military problems confronting Britain since the collapse of France and other Continental allies.

In order to realize fully the significant implications of this decision to abolish the Color Bar for the duration of the present war, it is necessary to review the traditional attitude of the British military authorities to their Colonial subjects, especially during the last World War.

Colonies' Contribution

In Republican France, Negroes served as an integral part of the army, but this has never been the case with the British army. The reason for this was geographical and political. France, as a continental power with a smaller population than her traditional enemy—Germany—had to convert Africa and other overseas possessions into reservoirs of cannon fodder. England, on the other hand, relied upon her navy for security. Owing to island formation, Britain could afford to do without a large standing army. Her Imperial Force was employed chiefly in garrisoning India, Burma, Singapore and other Colonial outposts of the Empire. In times of international crisis, these white troops were augmented by conscripts from home and levies from the Dominions and Colonies.

It was only during the last World War that Indians, Africans and West Indians were called upon to play any part of importance in the defense of the British Empire, largely as a consequence of the campaigns in Africa and the Near East, where the climate favored the use of colored troops in large numbers. It was in these theatres of war that the King's East African Rifles, the Royal West African Frontier Force and West Indian Regiment distinguished themselves. Others also saw service on the western front.

The cost of this participation of the African native in the war may be judged from the official figures for the campaign against the Germans in Tanganyika, East Africa. "14,000 Kenya natives were in the British armed forces and some 150,000 were used as unarmed porters," says this report. "Of these, 4,300 armed natives were killed or died of disease, and 43,318 unarmed porters perished, almost entirely from disease contracted owing to the conditions of the campaign. The Germans on their side threw into the struggle some 11,621 Africans. In other parts of Africa, especially the campaign in the Cameroons, the natives felt the heavy impact of the war. Over 200,000 Africans served in the French armies. In 1917, there were 31 Senegalese battalions on the Somme. Most of them were wiped out."

Dr. Nowman Leys, the distinguished British colonial authority, passes a trenchant verdict upon this tragedy to the black race. "Our own war," he writes, "has destroyed more life than a generation of inter-tribal wars among native races in Africa."

Man power was not all that the Colonies supplied, however. They made also very substantial economic and financial contributions to Britain's war effort. India, "the brightest jewel in the Imperial crown," gave more raw materials and money than all the white dominions. It is no exaggeration to say that England exploited to the limit her colored races. Space does not allow of a detailed account of the methods employed in achieving these ends in all the different colonial countries. As the West Indies are now being drawn more and more into the orbit of Yankee imperialism, I shall make these islands the subject of the confined survey to which I am limited by the scope of this article. These territories are destined to play an increasing role in Anglo-American relations in this present war, and it is therefore well that Americans—white as well as colored—should be made aware of the sacrifices of the Caribbean natives.

The West Indies' Support

Let me begin with Jamaica, the largest and most important of the islands. Nine contingents, totaling about 10,300 men, were raised for active service abroad. The island paid the whole expenses of these contingents amounting to £1,000,000, of which £11,000 was raised by public subscription. In addition, money contributed from commercial and private sources totalled £134,780, including £20,000 for British Red Cross ambulances and £6,000 for the provision of two aeroplanes.

Gifts of 7,600 packages of foodstuffs were sent to wounded soldiers in British hospitals, and £50,000 worth of sugar was presented to the British government. The natives of the Turks and Caicos Islands, administered by Jamaica, gave a motor ambulance to the British army.

[The English pound at present is about $4—Editor.]

Big sacrifices were also made by Trinidad and Tobago. The Legislative Council voted £40,820 for the purchase of cocoa for the British army and navy; £20,000 as a gift for imperial war purposes; £171,824 for the upkeep of the island's contingent and £1,000 for English charities. A further sum of £65,000 was raised by private subscription, including £416 by the elementary schoolchildren for Belgian children. Over £10,000 was raised by private subscription to pay the passages of middle-class young men to England to join up with white regiments.

Barbados, the most patriotic of all the West Indies, and incidentally, the poorest, lived up to its name of "Little

England." It contributed 2,000 men to the West Indian Regiment, of whom 831 saw service in Palestine and Mesopotamia. (I shall have more to say about the treatment of these blacks later on.) The island's financial contribution was astounding. The sum of £80,000 was given in cash to the British Chancellor of the Exchequer and an extra £30,000 was collected by the people for various British war charities, such as pensions for disabled white soldiers and allowances to their dependents. Barbados also gave £20,000 worth of sugar to the mother country.

Grenada, not to be outdone, sent 445 men and spent £43,635 on the war. Of this sum, £6,000 was for the purchase of cocoa for the troops to keep them warm in winter, and £7,687 on war charities.

St. Lucia's contribution to the armed forces was 359 men, most of whom saw service in the Near East. War loan subscriptions totalled £12,200, and contributions to British charities exceeded £9,000, apart from £2,000 spent on cocoa for the forces.

St. Vincent sent 592 men to the front and made a gift of a thousand pounds' worth of arrowroot for the army and £1,000 cash to the National Relief Fund. In 1917, all cotton produced on the island was purchased by the Colonial Office for the Admiralty, apart from which, 55 tons of maize was presented as a gift to the Ministry of Food. Further, the native workers and peasants raised £2,251 for the "Win the War" Fund.

The Leeward Islands, another poverty-stricken group, supplied four contingents to the West Indian Expeditionary Force. The Governments contributed £22,250 to the Imperial Government's war expenses. Of this £6,000 was given to the National Relief Fund and £4,000 for the purchase of aeroplanes. The Dominica Government also gave £1,000 to the relief of Belgian refugees. The natives raised by private subscription £20,000 to help Britain win the war. All the islands contributed food and raw materials. Dominica, for example, sent England regular shipments of citrus fruits as gifts to hospitals. Antigua supplied sugar.

The South American colony of British Guiana recruited over 700 men for the West Indian Regiment. Four steamers were presented to the British Admiralty for submarine patrol. Two aeroplanes were also given to the Royal Air Force. The country spent about $500,000 on local defense. The Government gave £5,000 to Lord Kitchener's Memorial Fund, while the sum of $91,255, including $2,400 from native school-children was raised for British charities.

British Honduras on the Central American mainland sent 580 men overseas, and spent $342,000 on defense. She gave £10,000 to the British War Fund and contributed $76,000 to charities. The colony also supplied the mother country with large quantities of mahogany for aeroplane propellers.

British Combine

These two colored recruits from South Africa are shown at a Royal Air Force training center in Great Britain. Note that in contrast to the United States, these men are included in training along with their white comrades. In the newly-announced plans for training Negro pilots in the U. S. army, Washington has set up a strictly jim crow air squadron

The Bahamas supplied 700 men for the army and spent £36,276 on defense. The islands which are now administered by the Duke of Windsor, gave cash gifts to the amount of £10,000 to the War Fund, and £1,016, and sent six

motor ambulances to Britain. Total cash gifts, private and public, amounted to over £60,000.

Bermuda—the playground of rich Americans—also made substantial financial contributions to Great Britain. All in all, the West Indies sent 15,601 officers and men, of whom 1,276 were killed in action and 697 wounded.

Cold Gratitude to Negroes

From the foregoing it will be seen that these colonies played well their part in the defense of Britain and her Empire in the last war. Let us see how, in return, these colored folks were treated.

In the armed forces the Color Bar reigned supreme. It was carried to such a ridiculous degree that the darker skin natives were segregated from the lighter, as goats from sheep. The West Indian army was recruited on strictly racial lines. The darker skin natives were attached to what was known as the "Public Contingent," while the whites and near-whites (octoroons and quadroons) were formed into the "Merchants and Planters Contingent." The former were under the command of Englishmen and local-born white officers, while the other force was transported to England and incorporated into various British regiments. Several of these colonial Brahmins were later granted commissions and transferred to the command of black troops in Egypt and Palestine.

The blatancy of this racial discrimination created extreme resentment among the Negroes, who were debarred by King's Regulation from holding a commission in the army. The military caste is one of the most conservative and exclusive in Britain. Only a full-blooded European may become an "officer and gentleman." This attitude is in striking contrast to that of the French, who had many black officers in their metropolitan and colonial armies.

Officers drawn from the ranks of the colonial plantocracy, being accustomed to exploit and ill-treat Negroes, naturally brought their slave-driver mentality into army life. The arrogance of some of these men—especially the South Africans—became so intolerable that several native soldiers were court-martialed for defending themselves against the chauvinistic behavior of their superiors. Feeling among the Negroes ran so high that the Imperial General Staff decided to disband the West Indian Regiment as soon as war was over and garrison the Caribbean with white troops.

The first World War certainly marked a definite turning point in West Indian ideology. It served to broaden their outlook. Most of the men who served abroad came back more racially and politically conscious, stimulated no doubt by the Wilsonian slogans of "Democracy and Self-determination" for oppressed peoples and races. It is therefore not surprising that the most militant and articulate post-war leaders among the common people of the islands are ex-service men like Uriah Butler, the Trinidad Labor leader.

As a result of the experiences of the first World War and subsequent events there was not the same outburst of wild enthusiasm for the British cause when the second World War broke out as there was in 1914.

Thus the British imperial authorities, conscious of the anti-imperialist sentiments among the Negroes, particularly since the betrayal of Abyssinia, have made no attempt to extend conscription to the West Indies. Colored men born in the United Kingdom, however, were called to the colors, and here is where the trouble began.

Most of these colored men are what the English call half-caste—sons of white mothers and African or West Indian fathers. Embittered by the way they are treated, many of them refused to join up when summoned. Brought before the military tribunals, they related stories of how some of them had tried to join the Royal Air Force during peace time and were turned down on grounds of color. Had they been exempted, the matter might well have dropped there, but the authorities forced them into the army.

Knowing that these men would be faced with color disabilities, the colonial defense organizations in London—the International African Service Bureau, the League of Coloured Peoples, Negro Welfare Association and West African Students Union, decided to challenge the Color Bar in the armed forces. Meetings were organized and resolutions adopted. Letters were sent to the Press and P.M.'s lobbied in the House of Commons. A representative delegation also called at Downing street and protested to the Secretary of State for the Colonies. Similar representation was made to the Air Ministry and War Office.

It seemed a losing fight. In Britain tradition dies hard, especially where race is concerned. For it must not be forgotten that while Britain is undoubtedly the last bastion of democracy in the Old World, the English are the most color-conscious people in Europe. So much so, that in a letter to the "Times" (September 12, 1940), signed by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, heads of the Church of England; the Moderators of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland and the Federal Council of Evangelical Free Churches; the President of the National Free Church of England and Wales, and Cardinal Hinsley, Archbishop of Westminster, an appeal is made to the British people to remove the barriers of race and color in England's hour of danger. This document is of such historical importance not only for the English people, but the Anglo-Saxon world of Christendom, that I shall quote it in full, with the hope that it will influence the race-baiters in America. The letter reads:

Racial Freedom

"A people committed to a great struggle is led to consider more thoroughly than before the principles on which its own life is based. We recognize that in the Nazi creed of racial domination we are confronted with an evil doctrine that could only bring misery and injustice in its train. In repudiating it, we are following our own tradition; but it may be that we have not fully realized the quality of that tradition or what is involved by complete fidelity to it.

"Our tradition has, on several recent occasions, received authoritative statement. Thus, to give but one example, in the *Statement of Policy on Colonial Development and Welfare* issued in February, 1940, the following declarations occur:

" 'His Majesty's Government are trustees for the well-being of the peoples of the Colonial Empire.

" 'The primary aim of Colonial policy is to protect and advance the interests of the inhabitants of the Colonies.'

" 'The whole effort will be one of collaboration between the authorities in the Colonies and those at home; there must be ready recognition . . . that Colonial Governments, who best know the needs of their own territories, should enjoy a wide latitude in the initiation and execution of policies, the primary purpose of which is to promote the prosperity and happiness of the peoples of the Colonial Empire.' (Cmd. 6175, paras. 3 and 16.)

"The serious purpose of His Majesty's Government is proved by the decision to spend fifty-five million pounds to improve the health, education and economic condition of colonial peoples.

"But the full value of this generous gesture will be realized only if the worth of the individual members of the Empire comes to be measured by personal character and ability rather than by the color of their skins or the accidental circumstances of birth.

"The tradition to which expression is given in the official declarations cited above is, in fact, the Christian tradition, and the prejudice which erects a Color Bar or prompts racial exclusiveness is, in fact, a denial of Christian principles. Fundamental to any Christian view is

the conviction that God is the Father of all men, and that Christ died for all. In the Christian fellowship all racial barriers are done away—'Ye are all one in Christ Jesus.' And this principle has necessary application not only to the life of the Church itself, but to the whole ordering of life so far as that aspires to be Christian.

"To the British Empire, which has increasingly affirmed this principle in official utterances, these considerations are of vital importance. It is not sufficiently understood by British people how largely the British Empire is a colored Empire; the unity necessary to its survival in the long run can be secured only if the principle of equality as between people of different race and color is applied in methods of Government and in human relationships alike in Europe and in Asia or Africa.

"We therefore claim the help of all who value the principles on which our Empire has been built up:

"1. In a concentrated effort to remove the barriers of race and color which exist today in British Colonies. The Royal Commission to the West Indies has just made the same appeal (Cmd. 6174, 30a) in these words:

> 'That the active assistance of all persons of standing, and of all available means of publicity, such as broadcasting, should be enlisted in an organized attempt to prevent any further extension of color prejudice.'

To this end the greatest care needs to be exercised in the selection of those who go to the Colonies as our representatives, either in an administrative or commercial capacity, and in their preparation for the peculiar problems they will encounter.

"2. In creating in this country an informed public opinion which will no longer tolerate passive acquiescence in the application of the color bar in such practices as the following:

(a) The practice of many hotel managements which still ask decent professional men and other colored visitors to take their meals in their bed-sitting rooms and not to use the public lounges. In doing so, the management consider that they are interpreting the wishes of their English clients.

(b) The refusal of certain hospitals to admit girls of distinctive color for training as probationer nurses or to give House Appointments to well qualified colored applicants.

(c) The reluctance of works managers to engage colored workmen and of many British laborers to work side by side with them.

"3. In extending the hospitality of English homes to colored people in this country, and in furthering by all available means the mutual understanding which will produce an educational and social program for the Colonial peoples, calculated to remove the sense of inferiority and of unreasonable discrimination.

"In this day of testing, when fundamental issues are made evident, let us be whole-hearted in loyalty to the best elements of our own tradition; and as we fight to preserve it and the instructions which embody it from the destruction which is threatened by an enemy pledged to a doctrine of race-superiority and race-domination, let us rise to the full height of our calling as champions of human freedom and brotherhood."

British Combine

This is one of the Indian pilots being trained in the R.A.F. in the north of England. If he were in the United States he would have trouble in Georgia

French Collapse Changed Situation

While the campaign against the Color Bar was developing momentum, France suddenly collapsed and England was faced with the imminent danger of invasion. Overnight the centuries-old military caste edifice based upon color came tumbling down like Humpty-Dumpty. Let us hope that all the king's horses and all the king's men will fail to resurrect this foul system.

Deserted by their Continental friends and allies, the British ruling classes were now forced to appeal to the colonial peoples to help save them from their former friend, Herr Hitler. Ironically enough, Jamaica, where not more than three natives can now assemble together or even walk through the streets of Kingston with a stick, was the first colony to start a Spitfire Fund. The island subscribed a squadron of 12 fighter planes. Other colonies followed, and by November the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies was able to announce in Parliament that over £17,000,000 had been collected for planes and other forms of assistance to Britain.

Besides this magnificent gesture, the Strait Settlements and Malaya States contributed over twenty million pounds for the defense of Singapore. Commenting upon these gifts, Mr. Michael Foot, writing in the *Evening Standard*, the paper of Lord Beaverbrook, Minister of Aircraft Production, has the following to say:

"These bombers and fighters will bear the names, perhaps the coat of arms, of a hundred cities in scores of lands in half-a-dozen continents. A bomber and three fighters from British Guiana; two Hurricanes from the Bahamas; three hundred Spitfires from Ceylon; fifty Spitfires from the Gold Coast; seventy-five more from Hyderabad; eighty more from East India; twelve bombers from Malaya; a bomber and two Spitfires from Mauritius; two Spitfires from Mombasa; £100,000 from New Zealand to be spent at Lord Beaverbrook's discretion; ten Spitfires from Sarawak (and one from the Rajah); three bombers from Trinidad, one Spitfire from St. Vincent and another from Grenda in the Windward Isles; four Spitfires from Zanzibar, more fighters and bombers from Uganda; more again from Rhodesia and a promise of regular monthly supplies; more again still from Southern Rhodesia; Spitfires yet again from the 'Speed the Planes' fund in Natal; large consignments of rupees from Madras; fighters and bombers, bombers and fighters, most of all squadrons of Spitfires; every day contributions and pledges of future contributions are pouring into the Minister's office.

"Jamaica had the idea first and had already increased her first contribution by three fighters. All the Empire followed her example."

Indian princes have also made substantial gifts. The Maharajah of Nysore cabled Lord Beaverbrook £45,000. One of the fighter squadrons defending London at this very moment of writing is supported by the Nizam of Hyderabad,

(*Continued on page* 82)

Books by Negro Authors in 1940

By Arthur B. Spingarn

This annual compilation has proved so popular that it is now a fixture in the schedule of THE CRISIS

AS in previous years this annual review notices all books and pamphlets written in English by Negro authors and published during 1940 that have come to the attention of the compiler. It includes, also, a few works published the previous year that reached him too late to be included in last year's list. It is naturally incomplete and, as heretofore, omits works by Negroes written in foreign languages, some of which are important and a few of which have been already recorded in THE CRISIS. No comments are made on books which have been reviewed in THE CRISIS (other than to indicate where such reviews may be found), on books not read by the compiler or on the pamphlets which are separately listed. Inclusion in next year's review can be insured by the sending of the publications to the compiler in care of THE CRISIS.

I. BOOKS

BOND, FREDERICK W. The Negro and the Drama. Washington, D. C., The Associated Publishers. 213 pp. $2.00.

This book is neither exhaustive nor accurate; Sterling Brown's NEGRO POETRY AND DRAMA (which can be purchased for 25 cents) still remains the best work on the subject.

BORDERS, WILLIAM HOLMES. Sermons. Philadelphia, Dorrance and Company. 90 pp. $1.50.

Ten sermons by an Instructor in the Department of Philosophy and Religion in Morehouse College.

BROWN, CHARLOTTE HAWKINS. The Correct Thing to Do—to Say—to Wear. Sedalia, N. C. Published by the Author. 111 pp. $1.00.

A practical guide to the social graces.

BROWN, STERLING A. POEMS in THIS GENERATION, edited by George K. Anderson and Eda Lou Walton. Chicago, Scott, Forseman and Company. 976 pp. $4.00.

Eight fine poems by Sterling Brown (pages 762–768).

CAVALCADE OF THE AMERICAN NEGRO. Chicago, American Negro Exposition. 90 pp. 25c.

An account of Negro achievement compiled by the Workers of the Writers' Program of the W.P.A. of Illinois.

CANSLER, CHARLES W. Three Generations. Privately printed. 173 pp. $1.25.

Reviewed in THE CRISIS for March, 1940 at page 90.

CANNON, DAVID WADSWORTH, JR. Black Labor Chants and Other Poems. New York, The National Council on Religion in Higher Education. 90 pp. $1.00.

Reviewed in THE CRISIS for March, 1940 at page 90.

CARTER, RANDALL ALBERT. Gathered Fragments. Nashville, Tenn. The Partenon Press. 278 pp. $1.50.

Sixteen sermons and fourteen addresses by the well known Bishop of the C.M.E. Church.

COTTER, JOSEPH S., SR. Sequel to the "Pied Piper of Hamelin" and Other Poems. New York, Henry Harrison. 93 pp. $1.50.

A reprint of the title poem, published originally at the beginning of the century, together with additional poems now first published.

COTTER, JOSEPH S., SR. Caleb the Degenerate. New York, Henry Harrison. 67 pp. $1.50.

A reprint of a play in four acts first issued privately by the author in Louisville, Ky., in 1903.

CULLEN, COUNTEE. The Lost Zoo (a rhyme for the young but not too young) by CHRISTOPHER CAT and COUNTEE CULLEN. Illustrated by Charles Sebree. New York, Harper and Brothers. 72 pp. $2.50.

Reviewed in THE CRISIS for December, 1940 at page 394.

DARTON, ANDREW W., JR. Citizenship in Wartime. New York, Fortuny's. 47 pp. $1.00.

An effectual argument against war.

DAVIS, ALLISON (with John Dollard). Children in Bondage. The personality development of Negro Youth in the urban South. Washington, D. C., American Council on Education. 299 pp. $2.25.

An important contribution to the subject.

DREER, HERMAN. The History of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, 1911–1939. Published by The Fraternity. 331 pp.

Reviewed in THE CRISIS for November, 1940 at page 362.

DU BOIS, W. E. B. Dusk at Dawn. An essay toward an autobiography of a race concept. New York, Harcourt, Brace and Co. 334 pp. $3.00.

Reviewed in THE CRISIS for December, 1940 at page 382.

FIVE NORTH CAROLINA EDUCATORS. Prepared under the direction of N. C. Newbold. Chapel Hill, N. C., University of North Carolina Press. 142 pp. $1.00.

Reviewed in THE CRISIS for January, 1940 at page 26.

FORD, NICK AARON. Songs from the Dark. Boston, Meador Publishing Co. 40 pp. $1.00.

Competent but uninspired verse.

FRAZIER, E. FRANKLIN. Negro Youth at the Crossways. Their personality development in the Middle States. Washington, D. C., American Council on Education. 301 pp. $2.25.

A distinguished and valuable sociological study.

GORE, GEORGE W. In-Service Professional Improvement of Negro Public School Teachers in Tennessee. New York, Teachers College. 153 pp. $1.85.

A Ph.D. thesis.

GRAHAM, SHIRLEY. On Track 13. In Yale Radio Plays, edited by Constance Welch and Walter Prichard Eaton. Boston, Expression Company. 390 pp. $3.00.

A well written and interesting radio play on pages 131 to 161 of this collection.

HAYDEN, ROBERT E. Heart-Shape in the Dust. Detroit, The Falcon Press. 63 pp. $1.50.

Mr. Hayden displays a genuine poetic talent and an unusual mastery of technique; in the opinion of this reviewer this is the most important volume of poetry published by a new Negro author since Sterling Brown's SOUTHERN ROAD.

HERSHAW, FAY McKEENE. Memories of East South America. An appreciation in story and pictures. Boston, Meador Publishing Co. 144 pp. $1.50.

A superficial account of a brief visit to these countries.

HOWE, MENTOR A. and LEWIS, ROSCOE E. A classified catalogue of the Negro Collection in the Collis P. Huntington Library of Hampton Institute. Hampton, Va., Hampton Institute. 291 pp. $1.50.

Reviewed in THE CRISIS for February 1941 at page 57.

HUGHES, LANGSTON. The Big Sea. An autobiography. New York, Alfred Knopf. 335 pp. $3.00.

Reviewed in THE CRISIS for December at page 395.

HUGHES, LANGSTON. In Fighting Words, edited by Donald Ogden Stewart. New York, Harcourt, Brace and Co. 168 pp. $1.50.

Contains articles by Langston Hughes (pages 58–63) and by Alain Locke (pages 75–78).

HUNTER, JANE EDNA. A Nickel and a Prayer. Cleveland, The Elli Kani Publishing Co. 198 pp. $2.00.

The interesting autobiography of the founder of the Phyllis Wheatley Association of Cleveland Ohio.

JOHNSON, JAMES WELDON and JOHNSON, J. ROSAMOND. The Books of American Negro Spirituals. New York, The Viking Press. 187-189 pp. $2.95.

A reprint from the original plates of the two standard collections of spirituals in one volume at a reduced price.

JONES, HENRY L. The Negro's Opportunity. Los Angeles, Henry L. Jones. 208 pp. $2.50.

Practical advice on how Negroes may find employment.

JONES, RAYMOND JULIUS. A comparative study of religious cult behaviour among Negroes with special reference to emotional group conditioning factors. Washington, Howard University. 125 pp. $1.50.

A pioneer study in this important field.

KNOX, JACQUELINE LLOYD, Bittersweets. A book of verse. Philadelphia, Dorrance and Co. 50 pp. $1.00.

Respectable academic verse.

LEE, JOHN M. Counter-clockwise. New York, Wendell Malliet and Co., 103 pp. $1.50.

Reviewed in THE CRISIS for September, 1940 at page 299.

LICORISH, DAVID NATHANIEL. Adventures for Today. New York, Fortuny's. 112 pp. $1.50.

Reviewed in THE CRISIS for October, 1940 at page 333.

LOGAN, RAYFORD W. The Attitude of the Southern White Press Towards Negro Suffrage, 1932–1940. Washington, The Foundation Publishers. 115 pp. 75c.

Selections from the southern press on the problem of Negro suffrage, with a foreword by Charles H. Wesley.

McKAY, CLAUDE. Harlem: Negro Metropolis. New York, E. P. Dutton and Co. 262 pp. $3.00.

Reviewed in THE CRISIS for December, 1940 at page 394.

MAXWELL, JOCKO. Thrills and Spills in Sports. New York, Fortuny's. 101 pp. $2.00.

Radio talks on sports by "Johnny (Tell-All) Sports Talker" of radio fame.

MERITT, ALICE HADEN. Dream Themes and Other Poems. Philadelphia, Dorrance and Co. 57 pp. $1.00.

Pleasant verses by a teacher and civic worker.

MITCHELL, JAMES B. The Collapse of the National Benefit Life Insurance Company. A study in high finance among Negroes. Washington, Howard University. 150 pp. $1.50.

An exhaustive study of the problems peculiar to Negro Life Insurance Companies as illustrated by one company.

THE NEGRO IN VIRGINIA. Compiled by Workers of the Writers Program of the W.P.A. in the State of Virginia. Sponsored by Hampton Institute. New York, Hastings House. 380 pp. $2.50.

Reviewed in THE CRISIS for October, 1940 at page 332.

THE NEGROES OF NEBRASKA. Written and compiled by Workers of the Writers Program of the W.P.A. in the State of Nebraska. Lincoln, Neb. 48 pp. 25c.

A short history of the Negro in Nebraska, sponsored by the Omaha Urban League Community Center.

NYABONGO, AKIKI K. Winds and Lights. African fairy tales. New York, The Voice of Ethiopia. 41 pp. $1.00.

More fairy tales by the brother of a native ruling potentate, educated at Oxford.

LANGSTON HUGHES
In 1940, his autobiography

PAYNTER, JOHN H. Fifty Years After. New York, Margent Press. 224 pp. $2.00.

Recollections and memories by the author of JOINING THE NAVY and of the novel THE FUGITIVES OF THE PEARL.

PECK, JAMES L. H. Armies with Wings. New York, Dodd, Mead and Co. 274 pp. $2.50.

An admirable and comprehensive account of aviation in all its branches by an aviator who distinguished himself as a fighter in the Spanish War.

PITTS, GERTRUDE. Tragedies of Life. Newark, N. J., The Author. 62 pp. $1.00.

A tale written for a scenario.

RAGLAND, J. FARLEY. Lyrics and Laughter. A volume of contemporary verse. Lawrenceville, Va., The Brunswick Times-Gazette Press. 90 pp. $1.25.

Facile newspaper verse.

RANSOM, REVERDY C. and ROBINSON, JAMES H. Year Book of Negro Churches, 1939–1940. Philadelphia, A.M.E. Book Concern.

REID, IRA DEA. In a Minor Key. Negro youth in story and fact. Washington, American Council on Education. 134 pp. $1.25.

Material assembled for The American Youth Commission setting forth facts pertaining especially to Negro youth.

RICHARDSON, THOMAS. Place: America. A theatre piece. New York, N.A.A.C.P. 51 pp. 25c.

A play based on the history of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, particularly adapted for Little Theatres and amateur performances.

ROGERS, JOEL A. 100 Amazing Facts About the Negro. New York. J. A. Rogers Publications. 50 pp. 50¢.

Reviewed in THE CRISIS for November, 1940 at page 362.

ROGERS, JOEL A. Sex and Race. Negro-Caucasian mixing in all ages and all lands. Vol. I, The old World. New York, J. A. Rogers Publications. 290 pp. $3.00.

Reviewed in THE CRISIS for February, 1941 at page 48.

ROBERTS, W. ADOLPHE. The Caribbean. The story of our sea of destiny. Indianapolis, Bobbs Merrill Company. 361 pp. $3.50.

The first complete history of the entire Caribbean. An interesting popular history based principally on secondary sources.

ROWLAND, IDA. Lisping Leaves. Philadelphia, Dorrance and Co. 55 pp. $1.50.

Graceful minor verse.

STUART, MERAN S. An Economic Detour. A history of insurance in the lives of American Negroes. New York, Wendell, Malliet and Co. 350 pp. $3.00.

Reviewed in THE CRISIS for October, 1940 at page 328.

TERRELL, MARY CHURCH. A Colored Woman in a White World. Washington, Ramsdell, Inc. 437 pp. $2.50.

A full length autobiography of one of the great women of our times. H. G. Wells in his Introduction to the book calls it "the most subtle rendering of the stresses and views and impulses that characterise the race conflict as it appears in America."

TRULHAR, ROBERT E. Some Gleanings from Life. Boston, The Christopher Publishing Co. $2.00.

TURNER, ZATELLA, R. My Wonderful Year. Boston, The Christopher Publishing Co. 117 pp. $1.50.

An account of a year spent abroad, which may be of interest to her personal friends.

WESLEY, CHARLES H. The Negro in the Americas. Washington, The Graduate School, Howard University. 86 pp. $1.25.

Seven public lectures by different authorities in the field covered, edited with an introduction by Prof. Wesley.

WORK, JOHN N. American Negro Songs. New York, Howell, Soskin and Co. 259 pp. $3.50.

A collection of 230 spirituals, work songs, blues and social songs in the arrangements made for the Fisk Jubilee Singers.

WRIGHT, RICHARD. Native Son. New York, Harper and Brothers. 359 pp. $2.50.

Reviewed in THE CRISIS for April, 1940 at page 122.

WRIGHT, RICHARD. Uncle Tom's Children. New York, Harper and Brothers. 384 pp. $2.50.

A re-issue of this collection of short stories with the addition of The Ethics of Living Jim Crow reprinted from AMERICAN STUFF and a short story reprinted from a magazine.

WRIGHT, RICHARD. Introduction (pages IX–XII) to SPECIAL LAUGHTER by Howard Nutt. Prairie City, Ill. 59 pp. $1.00.

II

Among the pamphlets issued during 1940 the following may be noted:

AN APPEAL TO THE COMMON SENSE OF COLORED CITIZENS. Republican National Committee.

WARREN M. BANNER. The Housing of Negro Families in Greater New York. Pittsburgh.

THEODORE BASSET. Why the Negro People Should Vote Communist. New York.

M. E. BAYEN. The March of Black Men. New York.

GEORGE C. BRANCHE. Therapeutic Quartan Malaria in the Treatment of Neurosyphilis Among Negroes. Tuskegee.

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General Tubman at Troy

By Earl Conrad

GENERAL Harriet Tubman, so named by John Brown, was on the march again, once more trampling upon the hated Fugitive Slave Law. Black as plumbago, her small, fierce carriage eloquent with strength like that of some creature of the wildwood, the escaped slave-woman was leading the citizens of the town of Troy, New York, teaching them how to deliver a body blow to slavery. Cool-brisk the day, noon-sunny the hour, and the time, early spring of 1860.

She was lashed in heart as are only those who love man strongly and hate mightily the tyrannous. Her presence in Troy might have been called accidental, but her leadership of the Anti-slavery action was not. En route to Boston to meet with the Abolitionists, she stopped at Troy to visit a relative; the fugitive slave case had arisen during her presence and she organized the present demonstration. The fury of the Negro woman was the match struck to the sharpest outbreak after John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry and prior to the Civil war. Demand: that the fugitive mulatto, Charles Nalle, be seized from the hands of the Federal law and spirited away to freedom!

As the pack of cause-stricken Anti-slavers swarmed into the street below the courtroom and the Proslavers crushed against them, political temperatures and bodily heat mounted, and from the pavement the sun was blotted out. Harriet Tubman's brood was out there ready to live or die to "let one of her people go." Anxious eyes lifted to the second story of the drab wooden building at State and First streets where, through the window, whose panes trembled from the tension below, the townspeople saw the figures in the slave case.

The General employed a bit of rare strategy, the effective ruse that she so often used in her night-time operations as a leader of the Underground Railroad. Posted at the open door of the small courtroom jack-knifed into the crouch of a crippled and weak old lady, her intense ebon face covered by the blue and white strands of a shawl converted into a bonnet, and shielded by a nearly empty food basket which she maneuvered about her head, she whined pitifully to be admitted into the majesty of the court. But beneath this masked aspect of anility she was tensed as a tiger, and like a tiger, ready to spring.

She listened to the roar in the street, and viewed the scene in court. She shifted her glance from Federal Commissioner Beach who was bound to send Nalle back to the South, to the witness from Virginia who was bringing the evidence against the prisoner. The Virginian was the brother of the man on trial! He looked like the accused Negro too, except that he was almost white. It was a rare thing, this coincidence, but it happened sometimes in that strange period when many incredible things occurred.

Charles Nalle was about thirty, good-looking, intelligent, and right now unnerved by his ordeal. He paced before the tremoring window and looked down upon the maelstrom of friends and enemies. At the instant when the Commissioner pronounced the decision against him, as the guards began to squirm and as General Tubman's deep groan of protest suffused the room, Nalle leaped into action. He turned swiftly as a wheel, darted toward the window with a half dive, opened it with a fleet movement of his gray-white wrists, and stepped out on the ledge. As yells of welcome greeted him from the street, he twisted himself into position for a dangerous drop to the sidewalk.

But quickly the guards bayed the prisoner. Hands encircled his neck, his sprawling limbs, and they hauled him back into the offices, holding to him like crabs to food. Aching for breath in their hard grasp, Charles Nalle subsided; and he looked for help to the swaying Negro women who filled the doorway with their bodies and their bursts of lament at his recapture.

WHILE Attorney Martin Townsend for the prisoner hurried to a nearby office to appeal the judgment, the situation in the courtroom was stalemated. In the tense interval a cry arose from the street, cracking into the courtroom like a gunshot:

"We will buy his freedom. What is his master's price?"

The southern agent leaped to the rattling window like a man ready to strike a blow. "Twelve hundred dollars," he called down.

Pouches flashed into the open and pledges loosed on the air. The well-to-do gave richly and the poor heroically. Two hundred was soon mounted by three hundred more. Then, like all tides that reach the shore, there was a mighty surf of final contribution.

"We have raised twelve hundred dollars!"

But the slaveowner's agent was avaricious and he shouted back at the populace, *"Fifteen hundred dollars!"*

It was the typical southern attitude of that time, the same which later provoked secession and rebellion. A stinging voice that was the clarion call of all the North shouted reply:

"Two hundred dollars for his freedom but not one cent for his master!"

Like a cloud of black smoke, with the crackle of heat beneath it, the Anti-slavers pressed forward, ready to strike out for Charles Nalle's freedom.

AT the same instant when Attorney Martin Townsend returned with an order calling for the fugitive's appearance before the judge of the supreme court, General Tubman decided that it was time, indeed, to take the matter before "the higher court"—the *people!* As several guards and deputies manacled the prisoner and headed him toward the door, ordering onlookers aside, Harriet Tubman arose to her full height, which was not impressive, and sent the basket reeling and bumping into a corner. Magically she dropped her aged appearance, and darted across the courtroom to the window. Her words declaimed upon the Troy air like some tonal bell in a hollow steeple:

"Here he comes! Take him!"

She sped back to the door, with skirt flying and blue bonnet waving like a banner, glided down the stairway like a path of spreading fire, and entered into the volcanic street, overtaking the guards with the demand that was nearest the heart of the people.

"This man shall not go back to slavery! Take him, friends! Drag him to the river! Drown him! But don't let them take him back!"

Adroitly the General gave direction to the battle. She wanted Nalle steered toward the river, where, by pre-arrangement a boat would whisk him across the cold water to temporary freedom in Albany county. As she shouted challenges and orders she locked her iron arms under the manacled, bleeding wrists of Nalle, and began pulling him out of the strong hands of the guards.

When after long attack, and after the fighting throng had swept down the town's blocks toward the river, and

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America Takes Up the Latin-American Negro Dance

By James W. Ivy

AMERICANS are notorious faddists, and nowhere is this more noticeable than in the field of popular music and dancing. A few years ago everybody was "crazy" about the jitterbug. Young and old, the lame, the halt and the blind were excited about "hep cats," "swing fans," "alligators," and *le jazz hot*. This choreographic phenomenon was purely domestic, but today, however, the faddy dances are no longer domestic, but Latin-American. Choreographically we have gone "good neighbor" in a big way. Everybody is either dancing, trying to dance, or learning to dance the conga, the rumba, the samba, or the tango.

So popular are these Latin-American dances at the moment that they are responsible for the mushroom growth of a series of New York night clubs devoted almost exclusively to Latin-American orchestras, music, and dances. Whereas El Chico of Grove Street and the Club Gaucho of Sullivan Street were the pioneer Latin-American night clubs, we now have such newcomers as the Havana Madrid, the Club Cuba, the Copacabana, La Conga, and La Martinique. Their aim is to cash in on the present Latin-American dance fad.

Helping these night clubs are the radio, the movies, and certain slick magazines.

Some of the smart New York shops have even gone in for Latin-American fashions: probably an off-shoot of the dance vogue. They advertise "rumba-ruffled" dresses, *monteras* (hats), *polleros* (full skirts), and *chullos* (chin-tied caps). In a word, everybody who considers himself smart is highly Latin-American conscious.

Now what strikes the intelligent Negro as highly ironic about the present dance craze is the fact that white Americans are shaking their hips and kicking up their heels to the tunes and steps of dances which originated among the despised Negroes of South America. Just as jazz came out of the Negro dives and jooks of the Deep South so do these Latin-American dances come from the *fritas* (dives) of Habana and the *barrios negros* (Negro ghettos) of Latin America. Out of the dozen of Latin-American Negro dances some quirk of fortune has seized upon a few for popularization in the United States. At the present the most popular ones seem to be the rumba, the samba, and la conga. Tomorrow they may well be the chiba, the bamboula, the tumba, or the nago. If the impersario who introduces these dances is clever, an erstwhile Latin-American Negro folk dance becomes in America a faddy ballroom dance.

Americans have "gone overboard" for the dances of our neighbor nations to the south, and many of them are of Negro origin

The Rumba

Because Americans are already familiar with Negro dances with their catchy tunes and lively steps, they do not find it difficult to take to their bosoms the even livelier rumba and conga. There is something about these dances that is simply irresistible. They are melancholy and plaintive and sensual at the same time. They appeal both to one's sense of rhythm and one's sensuality.

Take the rumba. The rumba has been known in America since circa '25 when it was introduced by El Chico of Grove street. In Cuba the rumba is frankly a sex dance. It is a seduction dance simulating man's immemorial pursuit of the woman. As danced at the Habana night club of Sans-Souci or the *chorchas* of the Afro-Cubans, it is far removed from the tepid versions of what passes for its namesake in America. Those who visited the Cuban Village of the New York World's Fair and saw the ballroom version of the rumba as done by white Cubans and then the original thing as done by Cuban Negroes can understand what has happened to the dance with its transplantation to American ballrooms and movies.

In Cuba the rumba is emphatically not a ballroom dance. It is an exhibition dance. The main point of the dance for Cubans is the skill which the woman dancer gives to the voluptuous and cadenced movements of her hips while she keeps the rest of her body immovable, except for a few short steps at certain drum beats. There is the quivering of her loins, the slight vibration of her arched arms, and the frequent waving of the handkerchief which she carries in her hand. This is the essence of the Cuban rumba, a dance which Suarez dubs "very obscene." Often what Americans dance for the rumba is not the rumba at all, but the *Son*, another Afro-Cuban dance, stepped up in tempo.

Most of the dances are of African origin

Conga from Africa

At present, however, la conga seems to have elbowed the rumba aside. Even the name of this dance shows that it comes almost straight from Africa, from the Congo. For some strange reason Americans have decided to call the dance *la conga* whereas in Cuba it is known as *el congo* and the music of the dance as *la conga*. In Cuba the Afro-Cuban drum orchestra, or its music, is la conga; the dance, which in many respects resembles the rumba, is described by Pichardo as being "slightly indecent." Like the rumba it is more or less a sexual dance. The movies *Strike Up the Band* and *Down Argentine Way* feature American versions of la conga.

Another Afro-Cuban dance which had a short-lived vogue in the States was *Ñañiguismo*. *Ñañiguismo* is properly not a dance at all, but the name of an Afro-Cuban secret society. Because the name is unpronounceable in the mouths of Americans, they coined the exotic *Nanygo* as a name for the dances of the *Ñañiguismo*. Actually there is no such dance as the *Ñañigo* dance, for the name *Ñañigo* describes a member of the society, which is made up exclusively

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The Frederick Douglass Centenary

By Richard B. Moore

The 100th anniversary of the first speech of Frederick Douglass occurs in August and this writer reminds America once more of the work of the great leader

THE hundredth anniversary now approaches of one of the most significant events in the history of the Negro people and of the American nation. It is the Centenary of the First Public Appearance of Frederick Douglass on the Abolition Platform at the Anti-Slavery Convention held in Nantucket, Massachusetts, August 11, 1841.

With never a day's schooling, only three years removed from the darkness of chattel bondage, and facing imminent danger of recapture and return to the hell of slavery, the fugitive slave stood forth to address the Convention. Soon his misgivings and embarrassment were forgotten as the tale of the wrongs and sufferings of the slaves flowed from his heart and lips. His earnest and eloquent appeal for freedom moved the Abolitionists as never before against the crime of slavery and history leaped forward with a giant stride in its irresistible march towards emancipation.

This event is not noted by the historians or heralded by the publicists who distort history and interpret events for the greater glory of the oppressors of mankind. These purblind and prejudiced "savants" would bury in the limbo of forgetfulness this signal development in the progressive evolution of the Negro people and of the people of the United States. Diligent in the service of reaction, they must maintain the Negro only as "hewers of wood and drawers of water" in the fiction they fabricate for history as a means of ensuring this status of servitude and super-exploitation in life.

Happily for us, for posterity, and for the cause of freedom, the perverters of history have not wholly succeeded in erasing this great event from the shining scroll of history. Research yet recovers precious portions of the true and glowing record bequeathed to us from the heroic past for the enlightenment and inspiration of the present and the future. Several of the noble contemporaries of the great Negro abolitionist, liberator, and statesman have fittingly described the auspicious beginning of his great mission and have adequately appraised its profound historic significance.

Tribute by Garrison

The founder of the militant, moral-suasion, Abolitionist movement, William Lloyd Garrison, wrote thus in his Preface to the *Narrative* of Frederick Douglass: "Fortunate, most fortunate occurrence! Fortunate for the millions of his manacled brethren, yet panting for deliverance from their awful thralldom! Fortunate for the cause of Negro emancipation! And of universal liberty! Fortunate for the land of his birth, which he has already done so much to save and bless! . . . I shall never forget his first speech at the convention—the extraordinary emotion it excited in my own mind—the powerful impression it created upon a crowded auditory, completely taken by surprise. . . . I think I never hated slavery so intensely as at that moment; certainly my perception of the enormous outrage which is inflicted by it, on the godlike nature of its victims, was rendered far more clear than ever. There stood one in physical proportion and stature commanding and exact—in intellect richly endowed—in natural eloquence a prodigy. . . . As soon as he had taken his seat, filled with hope and admiration, I rose, and declared that Patrick Henry, of revolutionary fame, never made a speech more eloquent in the cause of liberty, than the one we had just listened to from the lips of that hunted fugitive. So I believed at that time—such is my belief now."

A foremost leader of the political Anti-Slavery movement, Henry Wilson, has evaluated this event in the *Rise and Fall of the Slave Power:* "But in 1841 a champion arose in the person of Frederick Douglass who was destined to play an important part in the great drama then in progress. In him not only did the colored race but manhood itself find a worthy representative and advocate. . . . His life is in itself an epic which finds few to equal it in the realms of either romance or reality.

"In the conflict for freedom of speech and the right of free discussion Abolitionists had achieved a victory. . . . They had conquered a peace; but their opponents were determined it should be the peace of the grave. . . . Anti-slavery measures had lost much of their zest and potency; meetings became less numerously attended, and, consequently, less frequent; organizations, losing their effectiveness, began to die out. Something was necessary to revive and reanimate the drooping spirits and the languid movements of the cause and its friends. It was then, at this opportune moment . . . the young fugitive appeared upon the stage. He seemed like a messenger from the dark land of slavery itself; as if in his person his race had found a fitting advocate; as if through his lips their long pent-up wrongs and wishes had found a voice. No wonder that Nantucket meeting was greatly moved."

The Role of Douglass

The importance of this great event looms even larger as we view in retrospect today the historic role of Frederick Douglass and its real relation to the vital events of his age. For the Abolition struggle was the core around which the whole history of the United States revolved for at least half a century. Its successful consummation in the emancipation of the chattel slaves was the crowning achievement of the greatest epoch of our past history. And the record clearly attests that the role of the despised and down-trodden slave class, of its many heroic leaders, and of its best representative and foremost political leader, Frederick Douglass, was unique, essential, and decisive in that sublime and glorious historic achievement.

Since it has become the fashion of the dominant and decadent reactionaries of our day to deride emancipation in a thousand different ways, it is necessary to mark its progressive character and beneficent consequence. Emancipation broke the yoke of barbarous chattel slavery from the limbs and minds of four million Negroes. It freed labor, the farmers, and all other classes from the degrading fetters of the monstrous, reactionary Slave Power. The entire American nation was thereby enabled to achieve the most rapid progress in every sphere of life, economic, political, cultural, and social, and to make the greatest advance towards the realization of unity, security, peace, and democracy. Let those who can deny the profound, progressive, liberating, world-historic consequence of that achievement.

The extraordinary role of Frederick

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Bethune-Cookman College: Community Service Station

By James A. Bond

The story of a great college, founded and run by one of America's great women

ONE measure of value of any institution is the extent of social, civic, and economic service which it renders. Written large over the portals of the assembly auditorium of Bethune-Cookman College is this pronouncement of the institution: "Our Whole School for Christian Service." Through thirty-six years of educational trail-blazing the dual policy of this unique institution has been consciously in the minds and hearts of its workers. That policy is to adjust its program to the needs of the individual student and to be of service to the community. So, through the years the college has been steadily and consistently achieving its objectives: (1) Training young men and women so that with skilful hands, with informed minds, and with understanding hearts they may participate more intelligently and sympathetically, and, therefore, more efficiently in a changed and changing social order; (2) reaching out beyond the narrow confines of the campus, making the facilities and resources of the college available to the community.

In its community effort and interest the college has sought to make adults realize their duties and obligations as citizens in a changing socio-economic order. It has sought, and in an unusual way has achieved, to make useful and desirable changes in people, changes in their attitudes and view-points, changes in their patterns of approach to the solution of ever present and persistent community problems.

Its program has centered in large areas of community life and living; helping to formulate, to build, and to interpret a sound, sane, and workable philosophy of living in this every day life, relating it to social and individual welfare, politics, religion, economic competence, and inter-racial amity.

Powerful factors in this program of community service or education have been, of course, the stimulating, dynamic personality and leadership of the founder and president of the college, the use of the physical plant for community purposes, and the purveying of pertinent, reliable information regarding current problems.

Negroes Vote

Perhaps in no other southern city does the Negro use the ballot so effectively as he does in Daytona Beach. In nearly every city election he holds the balance of power. This achievement is no accident. It has been an accomplishment of evolution, reliance being placed upon orderly processes in the attainment of civic objectives. It represents years of civic education under the tutelage of President Mary McLeod Bethune. It represents a fine interplay of community

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MRS. MARY McLEOD BETHUNE
Founder and President

British Color Bar

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reputed to be the richest man in the world. He recently sent the Royal Air Force a cheque for £100,000. In the German mass attacks last autumn the Nizam's squadron played a prominent part. During the last three months alone it has shot down 36 Nazi planes, but 10 "probables," and damaged 25.

The Hyderabad squadron perfectly symbolizes the allied struggle against Nazi domination. It is financially supported by an Indian ruler and includes among its flying personnel two Poles, two Czechs and a New Zealander, a French supporter of General de Gaulle, and a white Rhodesian (natives are not allowed to bear arms in Southern Rhodesia and South Africa). In recognition of the squadron's services, the Air Ministry is now designing a special crest to be painted on the Hyderabad machines.

However, it was not until June 28, eleven days after the French capitulation that the Air Ministry informed the League of Coloured Peoples that the Imperial Air Council had decided "that for the period of the war, British subjects from the Colonies who are in this country, including those not wholly of European descent, are to be on the same footing as British subjects from the United Kingdom as regards eligibility for voluntary enlistment in the Armed Forces, including the Royal Air Force.

"British subjects of non-European descent who are in this country are considered on their merits for service with the Royal Air Force, and several have been accepted since the outbreak of war.... A careful examination of overseas man-power resources has been recently made, and that machinery is being set up in certain overseas countries for the local selection and entry of suitable personnel."

The first African to be selected for training as a pilot was Mr. Babatunde O. Alakija, son of the Hon. A. Alakija, a member of the Legislative Council of Nigeria and a nephew of the Alake of Abeokuta, a leading West African chief. Young Alakija was educated at Oxford and held the British Public School High Jump Championship. Arundel Moody, son of Dr. Moody, President of the League of Coloured Peoples, has also been admitted into an Officers' Training Corps, and Miss Moody, who is a physician, has joined the Royal Army Medical Corps. Dr. Otto Wallen, the son of a former mayor of Trinidad, and Dr. A. Marsh of Jamaica have also been granted commissions as lieutenants in the R.A.M.C. Larry Gains, the colored Canadian, former British Empire heavyweight champion, is a Sergeant instructor.

Several Indians have arrived in England to join the R.A.F. These men, however, are not nationalist camp-followers of Gandhi and Nehru, but the sons of officials, wealthy industrialists, landlords and money-lenders, loyal supporters of the British Raj. As most of them already hold pilot certificates, they hope to be soon able to take part in bombing raids over Germany. They were recently the guests of the King and Queen at Buckingham Palace. A very significant gesture.

Air Training Schemes

But these volunteers are not enough to meet the rapidly expanding needs of the R.A.F. The Imperial Government have therefore shipped training aircraft to India to be distributed to flying clubs in connection with the Viceroy's scheme for the training of a reserve of colored pilots locally.

A similar scheme has been started in Malaya, Ceylon and other colonies. The Colonial Office has made arrangements for the establishment in the various West Indian islands, as well as in Bermuda, British Guiana and British Honduras, of local selection and medical boards to select candidates for service in the R.A.F. as pilots, observers, wireless operators and air gunners. The names of candidates selected by these boards are communicated to the Air Ministry and, subject to their approval, the candidates are provided with their passages either to England or Canada for training.

The results so far have not been encouraging. In Trinidad, for example, the Governor, Sir Hubert Young, himself a qualified pilot, appealed for 350 volunteers. Only 85 responded, and of this number only 12 made the grade. It is necessary to examine the reason for this poor showing, for it has a significant bearing upon the general colonial policy of British imperialism.

Modern wars are becoming more and more mechanized. This in turn calls for a high degree of technical knowledge, especially for the air force. In Britain, the minimum educational qualifications demanded for candidates is the Oxford and Cambridge School Certificate, the equivalent of university matriculation in America. Now apply this standard to the Colonies.

Having neglected the educational and cultural development of her subject races, only a very small percentage of natives in the British colonies have had the advantage of a secondary, much less university, training. This intellectual élite constitute the professional classes or employees engaged in essential public work, and who therefore cannot be relieved for military service abroad without causing a great dislocation in the economic and administrative life of their respective countries. For the majority of English officials in the Colonies are just figureheads. The Empire has always been a sort of outdoor relief for the sons of the British aristocracy—and may we add, royalty?

On the other hand, those natives who can be spared, such as the unemployed and semi-employed, lack even the most rudimentary education. Even apart from this, very few of them could pass the medical examination, as a result of years of malnutrition.

As an example, let us take India, with her teeming population of over 350 millions. After a century and a half of British rule, "only ten persons out of a hundred can read or write, and out of this ten above 2.5 per cent, are literate in English," declares Dr. K. S. Shelvankar in his book *The Problem of India*, of which, by the way, the censor has refused permission for copies to be sent to America. Dealing with the standard of living, the author says: "Exact statistics for the whole country are not available, but a preliminary survey shows that 20 per cent of the people are 'very badly nourished' and 41 per cent are 'poorly nourished'; only 39 per cent can be regarded as well nourished. To put it bluntly, at least two-thirds of the people are starved." (p. 61).

The same conditions prevail in the African colonies. Britain is today paying a terrible price for neglecting the well-being of her colonial wards. But how could it be otherwise? Imperialism, like Nazism, is a system that cannot afford to educate its victims. Political oppression and economic exploitation can only thrive on the ignorance of its victims. Thus poverty and illiteracy constitute the very foundation stone of modern empires.

The war has exposed the rottenness in the Colonial System. Instead of being able to recruit thousands of first-class pilots from India and the Colonies, as is being done in Canada, Australia, and other white Dominions, the military authorities are experiencing the greatest difficulties in getting a few hundred recruits.

In India, the problem is made more difficult by the fact that the vast majority of young intellectuals—the failed B.A.'s—are staunch supporters of Mahatma Gandhi, and have no use for the British.

It is one of the greatest ironies of history that, thanks to the notorious race-baiter, Adolf Hitler, England, the greatest upholder of racial segregation among colonial powers, has been forced to discard the Color Bar in the Royal Air Force, in order to save herself.

From the Press of the Nation

Editorial of the Month

Victory in Louisville

Pittsburgh, Pa., *Courier*

WHEN the Louisville (Ky.) school board last week agreed to equalize the salaries of all Negro and white teachers starting September, 1941, another victory was chalked up by the N.A.A.C.P. for the principle of equal rights.

The attorneys for the N.A.A.C.P. were Messrs. Prentice Thomas of Louisville, and Thurgood Marshall, special counsel from the national office.

Behind them was intelligent, determined organization fortified by the dollars and cents of militant Negroes and the experience of 31 years of fighting for equality.

This victory should inspire all Negroes with renewed determination to wipe out educational, social, political and economic inequalities in every part of the country through intelligent, courageous and persistent attack.

We have not begun to do what we could do if we all made it a point to help the N.A.A.C.P. in these battles for equality by investing a dollar in a year's membership.

As the colored teachers of Louisville, Ky., have won salary equality with white teachers, so can the colored teachers of Dallas, Birmingham, Vicksburg, Memphis, Atlanta, Charlotte, Durham, Nashville, Charleston, and Oklahoma City win salary equality.

To pay colored teachers less than white teachers for the same work is clearly discriminatory and thus unconstitutional.

To fight for salary equality is thus not only necessary but obligatory for any one claiming to believe in the American form of government.

But how inconsistent it is to fight for equality of salaries and not fight for equality of transportation facilities, of library facilities, of recreational facilities, of public accommodation, of union membership, of opportunity to work, of the right to associate with and to marry whomever one pleases.

American Negroes must decide to end the contradiction in their tactics of fighting for one kind of equality while acquiescing in certain inequalities.

It is as certain as anything is certain that unless Negroes organize and consistently support, financially and spiritually, a determined and prolonged fight against EVERY form of segregation and discrimination based on color or so-called race, they can never attain full citizenship.

This conjures up the much-avoided expression, "social equality."

White people, especially Southerners, mention it accusingly whenever Negroes demand the same rights and privileges as other citizens.

Colored people occupying positions of leadership are much too prone to avoid mention of it or to say that Negroes do not want it.

This pussyfooting must stop once and for all time.

Whatever certain leaders may tell white audiences to make them feel good, the majority of intelligent Negroes in the United States want exactly the same opportunities, rights and privileges that white citizens possess.

This necessarily includes the right to work where you please, to frequent all public places, to associate with anyone you choose, to pursue whatever studies you wish, to travel with white passengers, to put up at any hotel you choose, and to marry anyone who captures your fancy, regardless of color, race, religion, nationality or ancestry.

The victories of the N.A.A.C.P. in Maryland, in Virginia, in Missouri, and in Kentucky in the salary equality cases are an indication of the possibilities if we keep on.

We must adopt the slogan of the late Marshall Foch, "The Attack, always The Attack!"

If we do not fight for what we want, we do not deserve it.

The main idea (of Negro History Week) is to make American schools conscious of the existence of a Negro history that bears authentic records of the cultural heritage and contributions of the black man. This is obviously a very necessary step. For, if we are to silence the myth of racial inferiority, we must attack not only the source but the very centers where it is disseminated. The classroom is therefore a very important medium. Here ideas are fashioned, false notions are either encouraged or discredited, facts are interpreted or misinterpreted. The honest, unbiased teacher is forever searching for scientific data in order better to impart knowledge to his wards. Thus the Negro History Week "becomes annually as the much-needed stimulus to arouse both students and teachers and to supply a standard by which they may measure their achievements." . . . Chicago, Ill., *Defender*.

We understand that following the publishing of a statement in the *Argus* last week on technical training for Negro youths in the public schools, the Board of Education has taken cognizance of the glaring injustices that are being practiced against our youths and has ordered an investigation of the same.

In our comment we wish to state here that we have nothing personal against F. J. Jeffrey, assistant superintendent in charge of technical training in the public schools. We merely have attempted to focus the attention of the public upon him as being the object which stands in our sunlight and which prevents our natural growth in the public schools. . . . St. Louis, Mo., *Argus*.

High city authorities have just announced intentions to construct a $400,000 recreational center for the youth of the city. Unfortunately, this recreational center, when completed, will be used for the accommodation of only one section of the youth of New Orleans. The other section, which is the Negro youth, will be excluded.

It cannot be denied, however, that there is a great need, unquestionably a greater need, for recreational facilities among Negro youth than any other group in the city.

Despite the fact that there are hundreds of playgrounds and parks dedicated to public use, only three such places are available to Negroes. One of these has no equipment worth mentioning, and the other two are very poorly equipped. Within the city limits there is only one small indoor swimming pool, and the next nearest swimming place available is 15 miles from the business section. . . . New Orleans, La., *Weekly*.

Along the N.A.A.C.P. Battlefront

Four Senators Sponsor Resolution to Probe Jim Crow in Defense

A resolution providing for investigation of the discrimination against Negroes in the national defense program was introduced in the senate February 19 by four senators: W. Warren Barbour (R), New Jersey; Robert F. Wagner (D), New York; Prentiss Brown (D), Michigan; and Arthur Capper (R), Kansas. The resolution (S.R. 75) was introduced at the request of the NAACP.

The complete text of the resolution follows:

"Resolved, That a special committee of eight Senators, to be appointed by the President of the Senate, is authorized and directed to make a full and complete investigation into the participation of Negro citizens in all industrial and other phases of the national-defense program, including all educational courses and apprentice training. The committee shall report to the Senate, as soon as practicable, the results of its study and investigation, together with its recommendations for legislation or other governmental action designed to integrate Negro citizens into the national-defense program without discrimination as to race or color.

"Sec. 2 (a) For the purpose of this resolution the committee, or any duly authorized subcommittee thereof, is authorized to hold such hearings, to sit and act at such times and places during the sessions, recesses, and adjourned periods of the Seventy-seventh Congress, to utilize such voluntary and uncompensated services, and to employ such experts and clerical, stenographic, and other assistants (without regard to the civil-service laws, but subject to the Classification Act of 1923, as amended), as it may deem necessary. The committee may utilize the services, information facilities, and personnel of the various departments and agencies of the Government.

"(b) The committee, or any duly authorized subcommittee thereof, shall have the power to require by subpoena or otherwise the attendance of such witnesses and the production of such books, papers, and documents, to administer such oaths, to take such testimony, and to make such expenditures as it deems advisable. The cost of stenographic services to report the educational material, data, and testimony taken at such hearings shall not be in excess of 25 cents per one hundred words.

"Sec. 3. The expenses of the committee, which shall not exceed $25,000, shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee."

All persons who wish to see discrimination in the national defense wiped out are urged to write to the senators who have sponsored this resolution and to the senators of their own states asking them to do everything in their power to see the resolution passed through the various committees and see that the investigation is conducted by the Senate.

How You Can Help Expose Jim Crow In National Defense

The resolution in the United States Senate which proposes to investigate discrimination in the national defense program (see adjoining column for details) is known as S.R. 75. It was referred at first to the Senate Committee on Military Affairs.

However, on February 24 it was removed from the Committee on Military Affairs and placed before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor. This committee will consider the resolution and report to the Senate on whether it should be passed or not. If the Senate passes the resolution and appropriates money for the investigation the whole story of the discrimination against the Negro in national defense can be laid bare.

You can help in the first step by sending a letter or telegram to the chairman of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, or to any member of that committee, or to the Senator from your state, urging them to pass S.R. 75.

The following Senators are members of the Committee on Education and Labor: Chairman, Elbert D. Thomas, of Utah; David I. Walsh, Massachusetts; James E. Murray, Montana; Claude Pepper, Florida; Allen J. Ellender, Louisiana; Josh Lee, Oklahoma; Lister Hill, Alabama; Robert M. LaFollette, Jr., Wisconsin; James J. Davis, Pennsylvania; Robert A. Taft, Ohio; and Styles Bridges, New Hampshire.

Nashville Branch Fights Aircraft Jobs Ban

The Nashville, Tenn., branch of the NAACP is continuing its fight for employment of Negroes in the huge new Vultee aircraft factory here despite the fact that the branch has received a letter from G. S. Hastings, Industrial Relations Manager of the company, stating the company would not hire Negroes with the exception of a few as porters and cleaners.

In connection with the lily-white policy of the Vultee factory in Nashville, the city board of education has indicated that it will not provide vocational training for Negroes in the skilled trades since Vultee refuses to employ them.

This vicious circle of no-jobs-because-no-training, and no-training-because-no-jobs is already in operation in Seattle, Washington, San Diego, Calif., and St. Louis, Missouri.

In St. Louis, the NAACP branch, is considering the filing of a tax-payer's suit against the board of education to compel it to offer vocational training to Negro boys and girls.

Richard Wright Wins 1940 Spingarn Medal

Because "He has given to Americans who have eyes to see, a picture which must be faced if democracy is to survive," Richard Wright, 32-year-old author of "Uncle Tom's Children," and "Native Son," the 1940 best-seller novel, was made the 26th recipient of the Spingarn Gold Medal at a meeting of the award committee held in New York, Thursday, January 23.

The committee's formal citation said the medal was awarded to Mr. Wright "For his powerful depiction in his books, 'Uncle Tom's Children,' and 'Native Son,' of the effect of proscription, segregation and denial of opportunities to the American Negro. He has given to Americans who have eyes to see, a picture which must be faced if democracy is to survive. The Award Committee salutes Mr. Wright as one of the most powerful of contemporary writers."

Members of the award committee are: Col. Theodore Roosevelt, A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; Marion Cuthbert, National Y.W.C.A. official; Bishop Robert E. Jones, of the M. E. church; Robert A. Pelham, editor and publisher of the Washington, D. C. Tribune; Mrs.

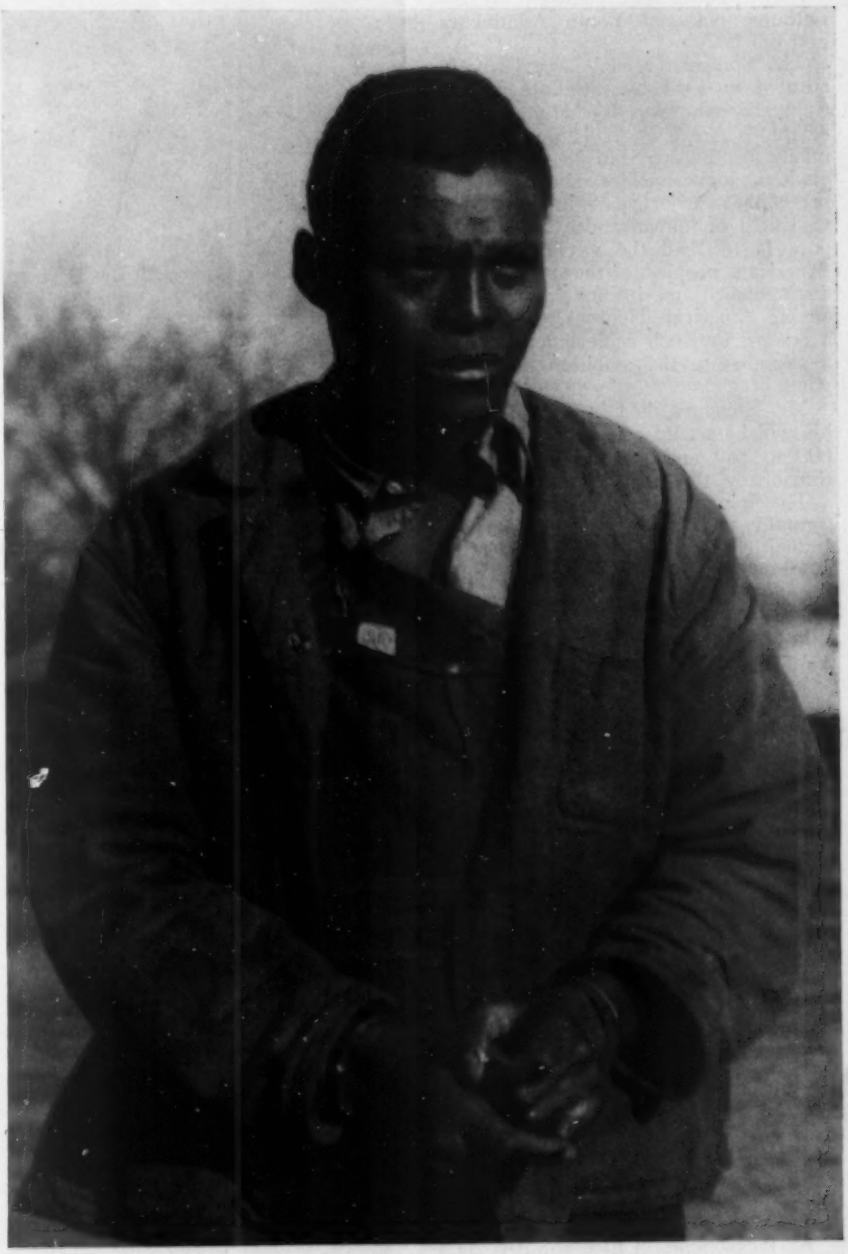
(*Continued on page* 86)

Tortured With Charred Bones!

THIS man, 20 years of age, was convicted on January 31, 1941, of murdering a white man, his wife and 4-year-old child, on the night of December 31, 1939, near Fort Towson, Oklahoma.

Lyons is supposed to have "confessed" to the crime. The "confession" was secured by placing the charred bones of the dead people in his lap, *and by rubbing Lyon's arm with the teeth and jaw-bone of the dead woman!*

Immediately after the crime, committed with a shotgun and axe, with the bodies of the victims burned up as the house was set afire by the killer, a white prison camp convict is said to have made a full confession. His statement that convicts were worked as prisoners by day, but permitted to roam freely at night, was so scandalous politically that it was hushed up and the word went out: "get a Negro and get him quick!"



W. D. LYONS

School Children at Trial

Lyons was arrested, but was held without trial all during the political year of 1940. For four days, beginning January 27, 1941, N.A.A.C.P. attorneys defended him during his trial, which the presiding judge described as a "gala" affair. Schools for white children were dismissed and the youngsters admitted to the courtroom.

Thurgood Marshall, special counsel of the N.A.A.C.P., who went from New York to appear for Lyons, along with Stanley Belden, a white attorney, was the *first* Negro attorney to act in the courthouse in Hugo, Okla., in its entire history.

Lyons was found guilty by a jury with recommendation of mercy. When a white jury in Oklahoma finds a Negro guilty of shooting a white family to death, hacking the bodies to pieces with an axe, and then setting fire to the home and burning the bodies—*and still recommends mercy*—something is rotten in Denmark!

Defense Fund Needed

The N.A.A.C.P. is appealing for funds to carry this case to higher courts and perhaps to the United States supreme court. White and colored people who live near Lyon's home already have contributed $360 to the expenses. It will take about $5,000 to finance the appeal in this case alone.

But, while we are talking about the beauties of democracy and the necessity of strengthening our American system by giving justice to all, why not make a contribution to this Lyons case a testimony to our faith in democracy and our determination that it *shall* work? Why not a defense fund for all the black men the N.A.A.C.P. is called upon to defend? Why not $10,000?

Contributions should be sent to the N.A.A.C.P., 69 Fifth avenue, New York, N. Y. Large contributors may indicate that their money is to go to the N.A.A.C.P. Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc., and thus it will be deductible for income tax purposes. In any case, checks should be made payable to Mary White Ovington, Treasurer.

Dorothy Backer, wife of the publisher of the New York Post; Dr. John Haynes Holmes, pastor of the New York Community Church; Dr. Mordecai W. Johnson, president of Howard University; and Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, National Youth Administration official.

The Spingarn Medal Award was instituted in 1914 by the Late Joel E. Spingarn, who was formerly president of the N.A.A.C.P. It is awarded annually to the American Negro who has made the highest achievement during the preceding year or years in any honorable field of human endeavor. Its purpose is to "call the attention of the American people to the existence of distinguished merit and achievement among American Negroes, to serve as a reward for such achievement, and as a stimulus to the ambition of colored youth."

Mr. Spingarn died in July, 1939. In his will he set up a trust fund of $20,000 to pay and provide for the continuance of the annual award.

The Spingarn medal will be presented formally to Mr. Wright at the 32nd annual conference of the N.A.A.C.P. which will be held in Houston, Texas, June 24-29, inclusive.

Ella Baker Appointed As Field Worker

Miss Ella J. Baker of New York City began as field worker for the N.A.A.C.P. February 1. Miss Baker has been active in consumer and cooperative movements and has had wide experience with community organizations. She is a graduate of Shaw University and has done advance work in community problems in Columbia university and at the New School of Social Research of New York City.

Southern Tour

On February 7 the Assistant Secretary and Editor of THE CRISIS completed a tour of N.A.A.C.P. branches in Florida and parts of Georgia. Mr. Wilkins began the tour in Jacksonville, January 24 and visited Daytona Beach, Titusville, Sanford, West Palm Beach, Miami, Tampa, St. Petersburg, Tallahassee, Albany, Ga., Columbus, Ga., Talledega, Ala., and Atlanta, Ga.

At Jacksonville, a new youth council was organized; at Sanford, a new branch was formed; and at Daytona Beach, preliminary work was done on a new student chapter. At Albany Mr. Wilkins spoke for the opening of the membership drive which is seeking 1000 members, and 200 new members were reported at the meeting. At Talledega he visited the active student chapter of the N.A.A.C.P. which had just completed the raising of $65 toward the expenses of a suit to equalize teachers salaries. At Columbus, Ga., Mr. Wilkins visited the 24th Infantry at Fort Benning; at Atlanta he spoke at the opening of the membership campaign which has a goal of 2,000 new members.

At the conclusion of the recent membership campaign of the Knoxville, Tenn., branch, twenty-six PANCAS were listed among the workers (those soliciting fifteen or more memberships). Those pictured above are, left to right: Mesdames J. G. Beck, Effie M. Harris, J. B. Watson, Julia Cody, Miss Zenobia Craggett, and Mrs. Mildred Ward. Standing, left to right: Mrs. Pearl Franklin, Mrs. Elmira Montgomery, Dr. O. B. Taylor, Mrs. Jessie Mattox, J. C. Bussell, and the Rev. B. B. Evans, president of the branch. Other PANCAS not pictured are: Mrs. E. Cowan, Homer Saunders, Dr. E. M. Carter, Jesse Lynch, Mrs. B. M. Benton, Mrs. Naomi Jones, W. D. S. Bradley, Mrs. Bradley, Annie Mae Smith, Mrs. Cloteal Presnell, Mrs. Tillie S. Kyle, Mrs. Cora E. Burke, Fannie Clay, L. S. Sinclair, and C. W. Cansler. The campaign was conducted by Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin

Branch News

Alabama: The Mobile branch observed national defense day on January 26 with the presentation of Rev. U. Robinson and Rev. A. Allison as principal speakers.

Connecticut: Lester Granger was guest speaker at the conference of the Hartford branch February 23. Dr. Allen Jackson is president of the branch.

Assemblyman H. E. Jack, of New York, spoke at the national defense day rally of the Stratford branch in January.

Delaware: Dean William Pickens said "No Negro has ever been a fifth columnist," at a meeting sponsored by the Wilmington branch, which was attended by about 400 persons. J. O. Hopkins spoke on the Negro in aviation, and the invocation was given by Rev. D. H. Hargis.

District of Columbia: A nation-wide protest against discrimination in the armed forces was the basis for a mass meeting in Washington in January, when Dr. Charles Edward Russell was a principal speaker. Other speakers were Rep. J. M. Robinson of Kentucky, Charles H. Houston, Mrs. Emma Guffey Miller and Rev. R. W. Brooks.

Illinois: The Kane county branch observed national defense day with a meeting at which Howard N. Yates was speaker. Samuel Patterson also spoke.

The Webster plaque, awarded to the Springfield colored man or woman selected as having accomplished the most noteworthy deed during the year, was presented at the Lincoln-Douglas day banquet of the Springfield branch.

The Chicago branch presented Alderman Paul H. Douglas and Miss Charlotte Carr of Hull house, as speakers on national defense Sunday.

Indiana: Robert Anglin is the re-elected president of the Evansville branch. Other officers are: Dr. Denby, vice-president; Allouise Jaxon, secretary; Allen Jenkins, assistant secretary; and Rev. L. S. Smith, treasurer.

Iowa: George Jackson, Jr., has succeeded Roy Winston as president of the Ottumwa branch.

Kansas: A challenge in behalf of the Negroes of Greater Kansas City for more national defense work was issued on National Defense Sunday, by Bishop J. A. Gregg, in a broadcast sponsored by the Kansas City branch, through station KCKN. Milton Bledsoe served as commentator on the broadcast, and Mrs. Ophelia Watts-Jackson, the Deep River quartet accompanied by Inez Ramsey, and a WPA band furnished music for the occasion. The broadcast was made direct from the First AME church of which the Rev. S. H. Lewis is pastor.

Louisiana: Rev. C. C. Taylor, president, was principal speaker for the New Orleans branch at a recent meeting.

Massachusetts: The New Bedford branch observed national defense day with a broadcast over station WNBH, prepared by Walter W. Bonner and read by C. D. Bonner, because of the former's illness.

Michigan: The Benton Harbor branch held a mass meeting on January 26 to discuss Negroes in the armed forces.

The Flint branch is busy in its efforts to find places for Negroes in Flint factories having national defense contracts. The committee in charge includes Mrs.

A. H. Johnson, Mrs. Ola Ogletree and Mrs. A. N. Roberts.

Missouri: February 23 was the day that the St. Louis branch asked local ministers to speak on the work of the NAACP from their pulpits. Its efforts in behalf of the fight against discrimination in the defense industries, transportation, job opportunities, jury duty, etc., were cited as some of the reasons for request for cooperation.

The St. Joseph branch has been creating new stimuli with its United Front for Defense and Enlighten Your Press—**Negro** with a capital "N" campaigns, together with the Miss NAACP contest, for its yearly campaign. The branch is going in heavily to improve the racial status and respect in the locality and the entire populace is becoming NAACP conscious. A mass meeting in the interest of Defense day was held January 26, with Dr. W. A. Simms, president, as speaker. The branch was pleased with the publication in the local daily "Forum" of the article, **"Negro** With a Capital N," written by Attorney J. H. Kelly.

C. A. Franklin, editor of the Kansas City **Call**, spoke to a large audience in January under the auspices of the Columbia branch, of which Rev. E. S. Redd is president.

New Jersey: Tax Commissioner Hubert T. Delany and E. Frederic Morrow spoke in the interests of the Negro in defense at a recent meeting of Paterson branch.

George B. Murphy, Jr., was guest speaker at the Montclair branch on January 19.

A testimonial dinner in honor of John A. Jones was tendered on February 21, in recognition of his services to the Newark branch as secretary for seven years.

New York: The place of Negroes among other races in the U.S. was discussed by Rev. David Moss, E. F. Henry, Rev. D. L. Haynes, Eardlie John, and Rev. E. A. Carroll recently in a program sponsored by the Staten Island branch.

The New Rochelle branch will sponsor a concert by Bruce Wendell, famous piano artist, sometime in March.

A large group of people turned out for the defense meeting of the Peekskill branch in January. Principal speakers were Madison S. Jones, national youth director, and Alfred Baker Lewis, national board member.

E. Frederic Morrow spoke under the auspices of the Hempstead branch in its observance of Defense day.

The Jamaica branch held its fifth annual celebration of Negro History week, February 10 to 14. Mrs. Harriet T. Ellis was chairman.

The Albany branch observed national defense day with a program with Miss Pauline Adams as guest speaker. A mass meeting was held on February 2, with C. S. Jones and Charles Palmer as guest speakers. Mrs. George D. Bowks is again the energetic president of the branch; assistant officers are M. R. Jefferson, John Wright, Evelyn Edwards, Leith Cave, J. D. King.

James E. Allen, president of the N. Y. State Conference of branches, spoke over station WHN on January 26 on "The Negro and National Defense." During the day sermons on the Negro in the national defense program were given by the ministers of St. James Presbyterian church, Salem M. E. church, St. Mark's M. E., Emanuel A.M.E., Williams Institutional, Abyssinian Baptist, Metropolitan Baptist, St. Lukes', and many other churches. Miss Maude Turner spoke over station WOR on the important topic of defense also, and Charles T. Magill contributed ably in the announcement of the program of the branch to the public by means of the press.

Walter White, executive secretary, addressed a mass meeting on January 26, at Boys high school, Brooklyn, sponsored by the Brooklyn branch of which Fred H. Turner is president.

Ohio: Dean Pickens spoke at a public meeting February 14 under the sponsorship of the Toledo branch.

Oklahoma: More than 2000 persons turned out for the mass meeting on January 26 sponsored by the Tulsa branch. Practically every organization in the city is represented on the committee to promote employment in the government's $10,000,000 bombing plant to be erected there. The branch has been working hard for the organization of a carpenter's union that they may be eligible for work in various parts of the national defense program.

Oregon: Wyatt Williams, Esq., has been elected to succeed Dr. D. Unthank as president of the Portland branch.

Pennsylvania: Theodore Spaulding, president of the Philadelphia branch, addressed a letter on February 18 to Hon. C. Bartlett of the state senate, asking him to investigate the unsatisfactory conditions in Byberry state institution, especially calling his attention to the status and treatment of Negroes there.

The Media branch observed the Lincoln-Douglass celebration with a fitting program. The branch is now investigating an Iron and Steel plant located in Morton, Pa., which has refused employment to Negroes. A statement was made that due to a clause in the lease of the property such employment is prohibited. The branch will launch a membership campaign on April 17.

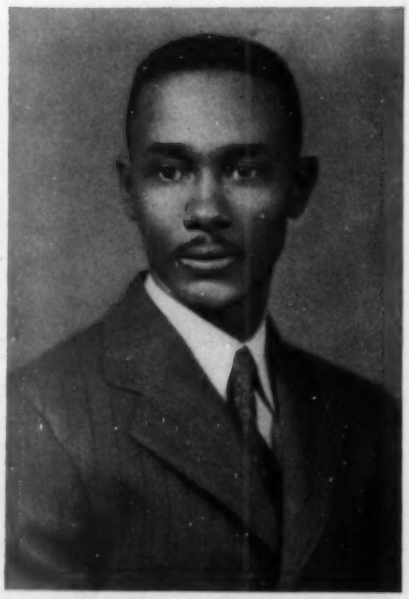
The Willow Grove Jenkintown branch held its annual election of officers on January 30. James S. Laster is president, John Gibson, vice-president, and Flora G. Laster, secretary.

South Carolina: The Aiken branch presented Rev. C. H. Brown, of the department of Religious Education at Benedict college, on February 9, as principal speaker. Officers installed for 1941 are A. D. Smith, president; T. C. Crawford, vice-president; J. Jenkins, treasurer, and R. A. Brooks, secretary. The Rev. John Tibbet of Troy, N. Y., also contributed a brief talk.

Notice to Branches

Send your branch news every month to THE CRISIS, deadline 10th of the month.

N.A.A.C.P. Youth Council News



Scurlock

YANCEY WILLIAMS

He is asking the courts to force the War department to accept him in the air corps

Councils Back Suit of Yancey Williams to Enter Army Air Corps

Yancey Williams, Howard university engineering student, filed suit on January 17, 1941, in the District of Columbia in order to compel the War Department to consider his application for enlistment as a flying cadet in the United States Army Air Corps.

Wendell L. McConnel of Washington, D. C., is Williams' attorney, and he has asked the Association to furnish attorneys to cooperate with him. Special Counsel Thurgood Marshall, W. Robert Ming, Jr., and Leon A. Ransom, of the national legal committee, have been assigned to cooperate in the preparation and filing of the case.

Yancey Williams is a member of the N.A.A.C.P., and the plight of this young man should be considered by the youth councils and college chapters of the Association.

His Qualifications

He is 24 years of age; senior student in Mechanical Engineering at Howard university; employed as a technician in the power plant of the university; has

successfully completed the C.A.A. primary training course and also secondary training course; holds a private pilot's license; has passed the physical examination given by the board of army doctors at Bolling Field in July. This is the same examination which is given to flying cadets; has been recommended to the Commanding General of the Third Corps Area at Baltimore by Edward S. Hope, superintendent of buildings and grounds of the university, William T. Courtney, chief engineer of the power plant, and Lewis K. Downing of the school of engineering; is now engaged in preparing for the C.A.A. examination which will qualify him as a ground school instructor.

Here is the reply from the Army to Williams' letter applying for training as air corps cadet:

"Dear Sir:

"Receipt is acknowledged of your application for appointment as flying cadet. The Commanding General directs you be informed that appropriate Air Corps units are not available at this time, at which colored applicants can be given flying cadet training.

"Your interest in flying is appreciated, and your application has been recorded for future consideration in the event facilities become available for training of colored flying cadet applicants. (Signed) Floyd W. Ferree, Major, U. S. Army Ret., Act. Asst. Adjutant General."

Director in Philadelphia

On January 12, it was the pleasure of the youth director to spend the day in Philadelphia attending an afternoon meeting of all the eastern Pennsylvania youth council leaders. In the evening, a special program was arranged by the Philadelphia youth council, at which time the director addressed the group on "Youth Needs in Defense."

The members of the councils of the Keystone state have shown marvelous cooperative efforts toward pursuing and carrying out the program of the Association.

Hampton Seeks Members

James R. Cheatham, president of the Hampton institute college chapter, announces that a membership drive for 500 members is under way.

More than half that number have already been recorded, and it is expected that the goal will be reached. What is especially significant is the fact that the Hampton chapter has only been established during the last two months. This drive demonstrates an eagerness on the part of the students of that campus to cooperate actively in the program of youth work.

Houston Prepares For Delegates

The Reverend A. A. Lucas, president of the Houston, Texas, branch of the N.A.A.C.P. has written the national office that the branch is making preparations to entertain a record breaking number of delegates for the 32nd annual conference, June 24-29, inclusive.

Branches which have not begun to work on their plans for sending their delegates to Houston are urged to do so at once.

The Houston conference will be the fourth time in the history of the N.A.A.C.P. that the annual meeting has been held in the South. Especially heavy delegations are expected from southern branches and from those in the Southwest.

For northern and eastern delegates, arrangements will be made for train accommodations from St. Louis to Houston. Those branches planning to send delegates are urged to communicate with the national office advising how many delegates they expect to send, whether they will be travelling by train and if so when they expect to leave St. Louis. The latest time to leave St. Louis and arrive in Houston for the opening of the annual conference Tuesday night, June 24, will be 5:30 Monday afternoon, June 23, arriving in Houston 12:55 Tuesday, noon, June 24.

New Officers Elected

Newly-elected officers of the West Virginia State College chapter are: Sherman Smith, president; Leontine Turpeau, vice-president; Alfonso Dowell, treasurer; Elizabeth Johnson, corresponding secretary; and Ann Brook, secretary. The following are committee chairmen: Gloster B. Current, program and research; Howard P. Jeter, labor and industry; William E. Howard, education; Helen Jones, entertainment; William B. Woodson, membership; and Earl G. Davis, publicity.

The following are the newly-elected officers of the Muskogee, Okla., youth council: Emery Jennings, president; Lorraine Coy, vice-president; John Cooper, executive and financial secretary; George Hubbard, treasurer; Leon White, parliamentarian; William Calvin, sergeant at arms; Samuel Jennings, chaplain; and the co-chairmen of publicity are Emery Jennings and John Cooper.

The following persons have been selected as state officers: President, Samuel Jennings (Muskogee); 1st vice-president, Lee Edward Lewis (Oklahoma City); 2nd vice-president, Theodore Malone (Wewoka); executive secretary, John Cooper (Muskogee); recording secretary, Leroy Smith (Ardmore); treasurer, Beasley Mitchell (Ardmore); and song leader, Beulah Moore (Wewoka).

The youth council of the Memphis, Tenn., branch. First row, left to right: Prof. M. E. Bicknell, adviser and organizer, Majorie Greene, Mamie Nelson, Porter Baymon, Alma Miller, Daniel Carter, president, Elizabeth Toles, and Prof. C. C. George, adviser. Second row: Bernice Wise, L. Franklin Sain, Lytell Barrett, Percy Milligan, Uriah Carr, Mrs. W. B. Gilton, and Carl Poston. Members not pictured are William Hall and James Breadon

Letters to the Editor

Comment on Editorial

To the Editor of The Crisis:

My eye was caught by the underlined phrase in a Crisis editorial and I write you to comment sadly on it. (Editor's note: Mrs. Fisher cites this paragraph from an editorial in the February issue, and underlines the last six words of it: If this is all Britain is fighting for: the *status quo*, a world in which poor men will still be poor and rich men rich, a world in which color will determine status, then to ask American Negroes to fight and die for Britain will seem like asking them to fight and die for Mississippi.)

You know what my attitude about race prejudice in this country is. I don't need to preface my comment with protestations. My attitude, the attitude of my family and my husband's family for generations, gives me the right, I think, to point out the tragic fact that if I were an American Negro I'd realize that, given any chance to choose between fighting and dying for Mississippi (yes, I know what that means) or living under the Nazi regime of insane race prejudice, I'd defend Mississippi with every atom of strength I had. We have come to so dreadful a pass in world affairs that we seem to have only a choice between bad and intolerable bad. I'm just as anxious as you are (more anxious than most) about British war-aims. But I realize that at their worst, they cannot be a hundredth part as bad as Hitler's war-aims.

I think it is the right thing to protest as loudly and energetically as possible against the Jim Crow attitude of the Army and Navy officials. Not a word of those protests should be abated. But I doubt the wisdom of intimating that Negroes have not the best of reasons for defending the U. S. A.

You and the editorial staff of The Crisis have certainly thought of all this, from all sides, already. It will seem familiar ground for you, I'm sure. I just thought you might be interested in this comment from your old friend.

Dorothy Canfield Fisher

February 10, 1941

Thank You

To the Editor of The Crisis:

I beg your forgiveness for returning this renewal blank to you at such a late date. I did not, however, wish to return the blank without accompanying it with a letter to tell you how much I enjoy and appreciate your excellent publication.

I was introduced to The Crisis by having a gift subscription for one year presented to me as the first prize in the Annual Essay Contest sponsored by the Negro History club of Frederick Douglass high school, Baltimore, Maryland, last February, during the celebration of Negro History Week. Since the receipt of the first issue, I have looked forward eagerly to the arrival of The Crisis at my home in the morning mail, at the publication of each new issue. The contents of the magazine have proved very valuable to me, not only for my own information and intellectual growth, but also in my school work. Especially valuable were the two articles concerning French colonial policy, "Subjects and Citizens in French Africa," by George Padmore, and "Upwards to Citizenship in the French Empire," by Louis T. Achille. Here I should make note of your very pleasing policy of presenting both sides of controversial issues. Also worthy of note is the interesting and open-minded criticism of the American Negro Exposition in Chicago. "Black Cowboys Are Real," by John Harmon came in very handy on a unit in English concerned with the American West. The articles concerning the Negro in the navy and jim crow in army camps along with the article by James L. H. Peck "When Do We Fly," are challenging and deserving of much attention. The editorials, "From the Press of the Nation," the book reviews and the poetry department contribute a great deal to the interest and variety of the magazine. "Along the N.A.A.C.P. Battlefront" is, of course, absorbing and inspiring.

I should like to say, also, that your militant publication enjoys a much larger audience than circulation figures probably indicate. I should know this, for if I leave The Crisis at home on the morning of its arrival some family member has it when I return home from school, and if I take it to school some chum borrows it before I can peek at it.

I fear that my discussion does not fully express what I wish to say, for being long-winded I could doubtlessly fill a volume on the topic "Why I Like The Crisis." I do feel, however, that every American Negro, and, indeed, every other American, should read The Crisis. There is something about The Crisis, also, that defies words to express it. Perhaps it is its high purpose, the way it goes about carrying out this purpose and the high journalistic standards it maintains. More than likely it is a combination of every thing good in journalism. Do not count me a flatterer. If The Crisis ever needs criticism it will get some from me, but I doubt if that will ever occur. At any rate I hope in some way I have conveyed my appreciation of The Crisis to you.

Joseph Howard

January 30, 1941

Error

To the Editor of The Crisis:

Not that it is important, but for the record. In the current Crisis (page 37) occurs the following:

"Published in 1632, one of the oldest known histories of Africa has been found written in Italian by Leonis Africani."

1. It is not by many centuries the oldest history of Africa.
2. It was not originally published in 1632 but almost a century earlier.
3. It was not written in Italian but in Arabic and subsequently translated into Latin, Italian, French and English in the 16th and 17th centuries.
4. Its author's name was al-Hassan Ibn-Mohammed al-Wezaz al-Fasi. He was a Moor and when converted was baptized Giovanni Leone; he is generally known, however, as Leo Africanus.
5. It is a quite common book to be found in many editions and translations in every major library in the world.

The interesting fact is that so many errors could be made in so short a statement.

Arthur B. Spingarn

February 6, 1941

Negro Authors

(*Continued from page 77*)

CHARLOTTE HAWKINS BROWN. The Negro and the Social Graces. Atlanta.

HERMAN J. D. CARTER. The Scottsboro Blues.

HORACE R. CAYTON. Negro Housing in Chicago. New York.

EDGAR ROGIE CLARK. Moment Musical. Fort Valley, Ga.

W. MONTAGUE COBB. The Cranial-Facial Union in Man. Philadelphia.

W. MONTAGUE COBB. Thomas Wingate Todd, an appreciation. Philadelphia.

W. MONTAGUE COBB. The Negro as a Biological Element in the American Population. Washington.

HARRY E. DAVIS. The Scottish Rite in the Prince Hall Fraternity. Cleveland.

WILLIAM N. DeBERRY. Sociological Survey of the Negro Population of Springfield, Mass.

CARLTON B. GOODLET and VIVIAN R. GREENE. The Mental Abilities of Twenty-Nine Deaf and Partially Deaf Negro Children. Institute, W. Va.

LORENZO HARRIS, A Negro Quiz. Atlantic City.

DWIGHT O. W. HOLMES. The Present Problem Involved in Graduate and Professional Training for Negroes in the South. Baltimore.

DWIGHT O. W. HOLMES. The Negro Chooses Democracy. Baltimore.

LET'S FOLLOW THRU. Help Finish the Job. Vote Straight Democratic Ticket. New York.

DOROTHY MAYNOR. Address Delivered Dec. 7, 1940. New York.

ARTHUR W. MITCHELL. Various Reprints of Speeches from the Congressional Record. Washington.

"MY FRIENDS." A fireside chat on the war by a Native Son. New York.

NEGRO AVIATORS. Washington.

THE NEGRO. A selected bibliography. New York.

1939–1940 NEGRO DIRECTORY, INDIANA. Indianapolis.

NEGRO WEEK IN THE AMERICAN COMMON. World's Fair, N. Y.

J. A. ROGERS. Your History from the Beginning of Time to the Present. Pittsburgh.

RESOURCES IN NEGRO YOUTH. N.A.A.C.P. New York.

WILLIAM J. L. WALLACE. Chemistry in Negro Colleges. Institute, W. Va.

LESTER A. WALTON. Remarks at Cornerstone Laying of the American Legation. Monrovia, Liberia.

JOHN HENRY WILLIAMS. A Negro Looks at War. New York.

LOUIS T. WRIGHT. Congenital Arteriovenous Aneurysm of Right Upper Extremity. New York.

RICHARD WRIGHT. How "Bigger" Was Born. New York.

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Book Review

THE DOLOUR OF COLOUR

A COLORED WOMAN IN A WHITE WORLD. By Mary Church Terrell. Washington: Ransdell Inc., Publishers, 1940. XVIII—437 pp. $2.50.

A Negro woman born in the midst of this "Christian civilization" of ours begins life with two strikes against her: the first strike is her race, and in America race takes precedence over the basic human virtues; while the second is her sex. So the Negro woman has the *gratissimus error* of being both a female and a Negro in a white man's world. The usual chivalric usufructs of a capitalist economy are largely denied her, and in the southern states both law and custom classify her as little lower than the *meta hetairon* of ancient Greece.

But these handicaps have been surmounted by dozens of Negro women. One of them is the author of the volume under review, Mrs. Mary Church Terrell, pioneer educator, pioneer woman suffragist, and staunch campaigner for equal rights for her people. Mrs. Church Terrell is the daughter of R. R. Church, famous Negro citizen of Memphis, Tennessee, who "devoted his life to the purpose of obtaining a square deal for the citizens of Beale Street." Mrs. Terrell was educated at Oberlin College and later traveled and studied in France and Germany. She taught at Wilberforce University and also in the Washington, D. C., public schools. She was for several years a member of the Washington Board of Education, a speaker for the National American Woman Suffrage Association, at one time a clerk in the Government department, and a worker in war camp community work. Mrs. Terrell has identified herself with practically every socially progressive movement which meant the uplift of her race and sex.

Mrs. Terrell seems to have been especially sensitive to racial slights and discriminations. An outlandish ticket agent in Dover, Delaware, once threatened her with arrest for merely asking a question. She also relates the trouble she had trying to get the daughter of a friend into a northern fitting school. She would be turned down by school after school as soon as they found that she had African blood. Mrs. Terrell likewise had difficulty when she attempted to buy a home in Washington. She would pick out the house she wanted, go to a real estate agent and make her deposit; but usually a few days later the agent would regretfully inform her that the house was not for sale to Negroes. In reading Mrs. Terrell's story one senses the fact that racial discrimination is increasing in this country. Her story is a terrible indictment of our democracy.

Mrs. Terrell's story is interestingly told though often naive. She dwells largely upon the little intimate details of living which naturally bulk large in the life of an intelligent, sensitive woman. H. G. Wells has contributed a preface.

JAMES W. IVY

NEXT MONTH

The winning poem in the poetry contest which closed February 1.

Douglass

(*Continued from page* 80)

Douglass in this achievement of emancipation and the magnitude and consequence of his life-work should ever be adequately appreciated and must never be obscured or forgotten. A summary view of the record reveals his eloquent and prodigious labors in arousing the people of the North and West to struggle against slavery and in mobilizing vital support for the cause of Abolition in Ireland, Scotland, England, and other countries. His establishment and conduct of the *North Star* furnished an influential organ and a significant demonstration of the capacity of the Negro slaves for freedom and accomplishment in the highest spheres of human endeavor. His pioneer labors for the education and elevation of his people, in industry as in every sphere of life, and his courageous struggle against discrimination, segregation, disfranchisement, and lynch violence were of vital importance in the preservation and extension of civil liberties and democratic rights for all Americans.

A leader of breadth, vision, and full stature, Douglass worked as occasion offered with all the outstanding leaders of the Abolition struggle. A conductor of the Underground Railroad, he aided John Brown, Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, and countless others in their great work for freedom. Employing every possible opportunity, he neglected no means and early realized the importance of the ballot to further the cause of Abolition. As the crisis developed, he labored with statesmanship and effectiveness to marshal and unite the people for resistance to the aggression of the Slave Power and for the election of Lincoln.

Civil War Leadership

During the Civil War Frederick Douglass rose to towering heights of statesmanship and performed a most important and decisive role. Criticizing the attempted compromises and inadequate measures of Lincoln and the Republican administration, he mobilized the people of the loyal states to press the government forward to "make the war an abolition war" and to "employ the arm of the Negro." When the government yielded to this supreme historical necessity, Douglass issued his historic appeal: "Men of Color, To Arms!" Protesting the discrimination practiced against the Negro soldiers who volunteered chiefly at his bidding, Douglass stopped recruiting until assured by

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Lincoln himself of improvement in the treatment of the Negro troops whose valiant arms insured victory and the progress of the Republic in peace and freedom.

Frederick Douglass carried forward this great leadership in the struggle for enfranchisement, and in the staunch fight against the reaction which instituted with a saturnalia of violence a new slavery, proscription, and lynch terror. Appointed to high public office, —Marshal of the District of Columbia, Recorder of Deeds, Minister to Haiti— Douglass proved himself the incorruptible and loyal champion of his people and of true democracy. With rare consistency he labored early and long for equal rights and the vote for women, for the rights of all minorities, and for freedom and independence for oppressed peoples.

A pioneer champion of labor, he pointed the way to the organization and unity of all working people and to their complete emancipation. Like Lincoln and the truly great Americans of that day, Douglass fearlessly opposed the slaveholders' war against Mexico as an unjust war of plunder and empire. With profound insight he clearly perceived the essential distinction between wars for empire and wars for the liberation of the oppressed. Frederick Douglass strove with basic consistency and extraordinary effectiveness throughout his long, eventful, and noble career for peace, progress, security, democracy, and a better life for all.

General Tubman

(*Continued from page 78*)

when the power of the police and the Proslavers was smashed, General Tubman, still clinging to Nalle, broke away, dashed to the river front, and protected by a brave band of hurt and bleeding Negroes and whites, placed the prisoner in a skiff manned by a sympathetic ferryman.

But the prisoner, who was almost unconscious from his injuries, was captured as soon as he reached the other shore, and there he was rushed into Police Justice Stewart's office. The law threw up barricades and prepared to fight anew.

With General Tubman in the forefront the conflict became bloodiest at this point; but it ended speedily, for it was like a small hill of ice attempting to fend off the wrath of a consummate flame.

The *Troy Whig* said, "Not a moment was lost. Upstairs went a score or more of resolute men—the rest piling in promiscuously, shouting and execrating the officers." Stones flew through the doorway, pistol shots came from the guards inside. There was a momentary retreat until someone shouted, "They can only kill a dozen of us—come on!" The citadel was stormed amidst a hail of thrown stones and a returning theme of gunfire.

But the final word was said later by Attorney Martin Townsend . . . "and when the men who led the assault upon the door of Judge Stewart's office were stricken down, Harriet and a number of other colored women rushed over their bodies, brought Nalle out, and putting him into the first wagon passing, started him for the West."

THE law tracked after General Tubman for days, scenting her out as they might some thieving desperado. The wrath of the Proslavers demanded her arrest, her trial, even her blood. But the Abolitionists had taken her deep into their background bosom and she lay hidden for days nursing her terrible wounds.

One night, when the stars were weak and the dawn was hours away, she was whisked off in a farm wagon to a distant train depot, and from there she sped toward Boston and the Abolitionists.

It had been General Tubman's victory so surely as Harper's Ferry was John Brown's moral triumph. The Troy action climaxed the fugitive slave struggle that had racked the nation's breast for ten years. If Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry was a dress rehearsal for the Civil War, the black woman's blow for freedom was a bugle call for the war to begin. And soon it did.

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On February 9, the New York City branch of the National Alliance of Postal Employees held its third annual "Good Will" community program at Abyssinian Baptist church, before an audience of about 3,000 persons, honoring the Lincoln-Douglass anniversaries. The N.A.P.E. is devoted to the promotion of the welfare of the Negro in the postal service. Pictured above are some of the participants of the meeting; seated, left to right: Harry B. Dalton, director of the Council for American Traditions; the Rev. E. Lissman, Chaplain, Jewish Postal Workers Welfare League; Waymon A. Evans, president, New York, N.A.P.E.; Hon. Albert Goldman, Postmaster; G. N. T. Gray, Welfare director, N.A.P.E.; Paul E. Lockwood, executive assistant to the District Attorney of New York County; Percy L. Conrad, president, 8th district, N.A.P.E. Standing: Roscoe C. Butler, Daniel J. Cooper, John L. Stokes, James M. Kinloch, George W. Merrill, Wilfred S. Atkinson, William E. Shorter, Edward S. Stuetley, Garnett L. Pendleton

Youth Council Officers

The Bayonne, N. J., youth council has elected the following officers: Everett Johnson, Robert Jackson, Ida Bruce, Catherine Gaye and John McQuilla—president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and publicity manager, respectively.

The Rockford, Ill., youth council has elected the following officers: Dorothy Robinson, president; Arthur Madison, vice-president; Jeanette Ethridge, secretary; Bettye Carmichael, assistant secretary, and Leona Horton, treasurer. The chairman of the various committees include: Marguerite Hill, membership; Leona Horton, finance, Naomi Jefferson, press and publicity; Ida Fern Wrey, CRISIS; Lois Watts, labor and industry; Lucille Carmichael, educational; Donald Brown, entertainment; and Harriet Davis, program and research.

The Washington, D. C., youth council has filed its application for charter. The officers of this newly-organized group include: Virginia F. Hightower, president; Ulysses S. Ricks, vice-president; Dorothy H. Ricks, secretary; and Romay Lucas, treasurer.

Picture Commended

The Boston, Mass., youth council sent a letter to the Metro-Goldwyn-Meyer studios in Hollywood, Cal., commending them on their fine treatment of the Negro in their motion picture "Dr. Kildare Goes Home." In response to their letter, the studio wrote:

"Miss M. Phyllis Mitchell
Secretary, Youth Council
558 Massachusetts Avenue
Boston, Mass.

"My dear Miss Mitchell:

"Thanks so much for your letter of December 7.

"I am deeply gratified that your reaction to the Negro surgeon in "Doctor Kildare Goes Home" was so favorable. It was in the hopes of producing this reaction in the minds of *all* the persons who might see the picture that I used the incident as I did.

"Your letter came as a welcome confirmation to the remarks given by Mr. Walter White to the Los Angeles Press on his arrival here recently.

"It's entirely unnecessary, of course, for me to say that I am pleased and rewarded." (Signed) Carey Wilson.

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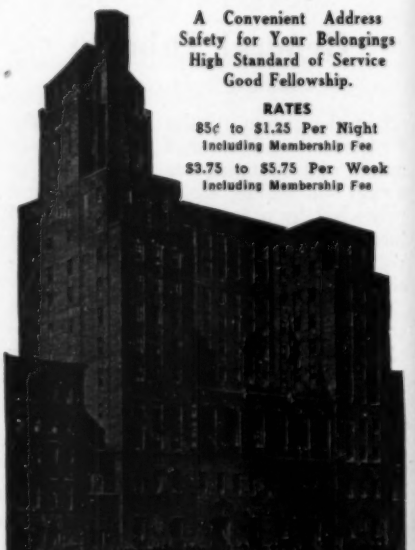

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Negro Dances

(*Continued from page 79*)

of men. Some of the dances of this society have been exhibited in America as Vodun dances, when properly speaking they are ritualistic rather than genuine Vodun dances.

Competing with the conga and rumba is the Brazilian Samba. According to Ildefonso Pereda Valdes the samba is the "most popular Negro dance in Brail, though in its real purity it is only danced during the *días de carnaval* in the round houses of Rio." The samba is really a generalized name for a series of Afro-Brazilian dances. Here is the way Dr. Ramos describes its evolution:

The first or initial stage is distinguished by the *batuque* or round dance with individual steps, which is of Anglo-Congolese origin. The second is the appearance of the *maxixe,* a Brazilian dance which took advantage of the Negro elements in the *batuque,* incorporating into it such Spanish-American variations as the *habanera* and European through the *polka.* The third stage, going on at present time, is working an even more remarkable fusion. The *samba* is in the process of evolution, undefined and fluid, rhythmic and choreographic elements, in which the contribution of the Negro is combined with that of the European.

Other Negro dances of Brazil are the *quimbête,* the *sarambú,* the *caxambú,* and the *chiba* to mention a few of the many dozen Afro-Brazilian dances. Many of the Afro-Brazilian dances are fetishistic dances (*aluja, jeguede,* etc.) and therefore integral parts of various Afro-Brazilian cults. They are not popular dances even in Brazil and will hardly gain vogue outside of that country.

Tango the First

Probably the first of these Latin-American Negro dances to gain vogue outside of its country of origin was the Argentine Tango. The tango has become fused with European steps to such an extent that its Negro features have been obscured. Yet both the dance and its music are basically Negro. "The sound of the word tango," writes Vicente Rossi, "was heard in La Plata from the melancholy days of the colony; it was the name the African Negroes gave to their percussion instruments. In the early days it was called the 'Tango of Negroes.'" The name was given at first by the Negroes to their drums, later to the music of these drums, and finally was transferred to the dances which accompanied the drum music.

For a long time the tango was danced almost exclusively by the Rioplatense Negroes. Its steps and its music were characteristically African. Only after it had been taken up by the whites of the Port did it begin to slough off many of its folk aspects and to acquire the characteristics of a ballroom dance. World-wide diffusion of the tango began with its popularity in Paris. From Paris it spread to London, New York, and other capitals of the Western World. Few people, however, have known of its Negro origin. The word itself, according to Fernando Ortiz, is Congo-African: *iango,* a dance. Rossi, on the other hand, while holding to an African origin believes that the word is Arabic.

These are the most popular—the tango, the rumba, and la conga—of the Latin-American dances in America at present. The samba seems to be slowly catching on, but it nowhere enjoys the vogue of the Cuban dances. For some strange reason the dances of Haiti have had little appeal for Americans. And Haiti is rich in social and religious dances. Probably the undue attention which American journalists have centered on the Haitian Vodun dances has made the more secular dances of that island suspect. It seemed for a time that the *meringue,* a Haitian social dance, might catch on; but it didn't. It had a mild vogue in certain New York night clubs for a while, but it never became popular.

Another West Indian Negro dance, *la biguine* from Martinique, has been featured by certain New York night clubs, but it too has never caught on. In Paris *la biguine,* coming as it does from a French possession, had a shifting vogue in certain Parisian circles and was the main attraction of the many *Bal Nègre de Paris.* I have seen it done in one or two Harlem dives by Martiniquais, but then that was some years ago before the present fad in Latin-American dances.

Negro Influence in Dances

We find in Latin-America wherever there is a considerable Negro population that the popular music and the popular dances show the influence of the Negro. Most of these dances were originally danced to the accompaniment of the drum and the clapping of hands. This feature is typically African. Their rhythms and their steps are likewise African. Salillas calls their movements posterior-pelvic and points this out as a characteristic of Negro African dances. This is certainly true of all the Latin-American Negro dances I have seen, and it fits the description of others I have read about but never seen.

Many of these dances are purely social dances, yet others originated in the series of dances which so often accompany Latin-Negro religious ceremonies. The tango and the rumba would seem to have always been social dances. The meringue is probably an evolution from one of the Haitian Vodun dances. The Brazilian samba has in its evolution shed many of its early fetishistic features. Indian influence can also be traced in some of the Negro dances from Haiti and Brazil. But according to Dr. Ramos of Brazil these Indian elements were quickly and early fused into the basic African or European pattern. Even in Brazil it is hard to trace the Indian elements of dances known to have them.

Other Latin-American dances showing the Negro influence are the *joropo* of Venezuela, the *bambuco* of Colombia, and the *posillo* of Ecuador. In a short article such as this it is impossible to list all the Latin-American dances of Negro origin, or to give an adequate description of them. Dr. Fernando Ortiz of Habana lists dozens of them in his *Glosario de Afro-Negrismos,* and Dr. Arthur Ramos of Brazil devotes a whole chapter of his *O Folk-Lore Negro do Brasil* to the Negro dances of his country. What I have tried to do in this sketchy article is to call the attention of American Negroes to the Negro origins of the Latin-American dances which are now enjoying such a vogue in the United States.

I Watch A Tree

I watch a tree from my window
  Her boughs are cold and bare,
But lovely icy tinsels
  Are woven in her hair.
I watch a tree from my window
  The tiny buds appear,
The day is warm and sunny
  For spring is very near.
I watch a tree from my window
  She is lovely as a queen,
Adorned in fragile blossoms
  With emeralds in between.

—E. Olivia Nanton

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Bethune-Cookman

(*Continued from page* 81)

and college effort. The president of the college has consistently held to the belief that in the measure that the Negro exercises the franchise, and actively participates in civic life, in that same measure does he pave the way for larger economic opportunity, economic competence, economic freedom.

Realizing that enlightened action can occur only as it is predicated upon a base of adequate and accurate information, the college, in addition to its own educative agencies, has brought to the Negro citizenship of Daytona Beach, through the Florida Forum, a talented array of national and international speakers, men and women who think deeply, who travel extensively, and who are thus able to speak authoritatively on current political, economic, and social questions. Typical of these platform guests have been: Harold Lord Varney, J. Anton DeHaas, John F. Schindler, John Spargo, Harrison E. Howe, Fred B. Smith, J. Hamilton Fish, Raymond Robins, William Trufant Foster, Rabbi Edward L. Israel, Robert Arthur Elwood, Harry C. Spillman, Hubert C. Herring, Brewer Eddy, Stella Marek Cushing, Honorable Ray L. Huff, James Trappier Lowe, Mrs. Jeanette Rankin, Judge Jennie Loitman Barron, Dr. Sherwood Eddy, Bishop Francis J. McConnell, Dr. Samuel Guy Inman, Dr. Irving Fisher, Dr. Max Lerner, Dr. Henry Smith Leiper, Dr. Hadley Cantril, Kirby Page.

In the community church and Sunday school life the influence of the college is felt. Some one has remarked: "The Gospel is the greatest message in the world, so it is worthy of being expressed in the best, the clearest, the most forceful and the most dignified words." All members of the senior class in the teacher-education division of the college, as a part of their training for rural and urban service, share in the Sunday school program of the college church, either by assisting the regular teacher or by actually teaching the class. In this connection, these trainees have the opportunity each week of a one-hour period of study in preparation for the teaching of the lesson under a skilled religious education teacher. Nor is this type of instruction restricted to the college church. Young men and women of this division find their way into the many smaller churches of various faiths where this type of work is so sorely needed.

Library Serves Town

The college library performs a realistic and functional role in this program of community education and service. In Daytona Beach there is a public library for whites, but there is none for Negroes. The college assumes the responsibility, therefore, of providing library facilities for the Negro population of the city, for Volusia county, and for the adjacent fifty-mile radius territory. The extent of this service is indicated by the fact that the library thus becomes accessible to and is used not only by our own staff of forty-two workers, our own student population of 642 persons, but also by the city public school system, with a staff of forty-seven workers and 1,250 students. Use is also made of these facilities by civic, business, and religious organizations. An up-to-the-minute clipping service, valuable for providing the most recent information on social problems, economics, education, international relations, social security, and allied subjects; the use of the library by elementary and secondary school teachers as a means of keeping abreast with new movements, trends, and developments in their profession; its use by youth groups of the community for cultural and recreational reading; a reasonably adequate reference collection, with collateral works in various fields affording opportunity for investigative reading and research—all of these are indicative of the spread of the service offered.

The Sunday Afternoon Community meetings at Bethune-Cookman are unique experiments in community service and good-will. They attract each week large crowds of community residents and tourists. The matchless spirituals and melodies of the Negro people are sung by the entire student body, by the college choral ensemble, and by smaller musical groups.

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LEGAL DIRECTORY

Responding to frequent inquiries, THE CRISIS carries herewith the names and addresses with telephone numbers of some of the 1300 colored attorneys in the United States, purely as a service to those seeking such information. THE CRISIS does not maintain a legal bureau, as many readers seem to think, and the N.A.A.C.P. concerns itself only with cases involving color discrimination, segregation or denial of citizenship rights. Lawyers whose names do not appear below are requested to write to THE CRISIS.

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